

THE SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF NATURALISTS
MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING AT
THE 66th ANNUAL MEETING,
UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE CHIHUAHUA
CHIHUAHUA, CHIHUAHA, MEXICO
FRIDAY, 12 APRIL 2019

President Susana Perea-Fox called the meeting to order at 1139 h with a quorum present. Perea-Fox explained that the minutes from the 2018 meeting have been approved by the BOG and need to be approved by the membership.

The membership approved the minutes of the 2018 Board of Governors and Officers (BOG) Meeting for the 65th Annual Meeting held jointly by Texas State University and St. Edward's University in San Marcos, Texas (soon to be published in *The Southwestern Naturalist* Volume 63(4), and available on the SWAN webpage at <https://saon.wildapricot.org/>).

Perea-Fox stated that this year we need to nominate a new President-Elect. Juliann Waits was nominated. David McNeely moved to close nominations, Bob Edwards seconded, and Juliann Waits was elected by acclamation as President Elect.

President Perea-Fox called for nominations for the new class of the Board of Governors, to replace outgoing members David McNeely, Ricardo Ayala, Nicté Ordóñez Garza, Chris Taylor, and Cornelio Sánchez Hernández. She directed the membership to vote for four new members, then appointed the Wilks Award/Student Field Natural History Award finalists, Eliphaeth Carmona Gómez, Annamaria Savarino Drago, and Luis Alexander Peña Peniche to serve as tellers for the election of the new BOG members. Nominations by the membership included David McNeely, Jesús Fernández, Justin Williams, Chris Taylor, Joel Brandt, Cornelio Sánchez, and Gamaliel Castañeda Gaytán. Nominations were closed with a motion by Stanley Fox and seconded by Karen McBee and a ballot vote was conducted. The election results will be announced at the banquet on Saturday evening 13 April 2019.

Secretary Jason Strickland then summarized the reports, discussions and action items from the BOG meeting that was held on 11 April 2019 at the Sheraton Hotel from 1:20-4:47pm. The summary read as follows: "The Board of Governors, hereafter 'The BOG,' met yesterday at the Sheraton Hotel. President Susana Perea-Fox, Treasurer Ray Willis, President Elect Jack Shaefer, and others are continuing to work on reobtaining tax-exempt status for SWAN. This will occur once paperwork and issues from previous years are resolved. Once this is done, SWAN will also ensure that we are fully incorporated as a society to meet tax-exempt status.

Ray Willis presented the Treasurers report and is working to obtain the missing information to have a finalized report. The report was tabled and the final report will be voted on by the BOG once completed. Willis is working to modify the format of the report to ensure that all income and expenses can be tracked better. Once this is done, a budget proposal will be made but there will not be a budget presented to the membership today.

The Trustees report was given by Chad Hargrave in place of the Chair, Robert Dowler. The majority of SWAN investments are in high quality mutual funds. There were a few changes over the last year. First, money invested in a stock account was liquidated and the funds distributed to other accounts. Second, due to the volatility of the market in 2017 and 2018, some funds were moved into two bond accounts which are generally more stable. Third, \$40,000 was transferred to the Treasure in anticipation of expenses for the upcoming year. Overall, SWAN's assets are

doing well and the Association is in good fiscal shape long-term with more than 1.1 million in the endowment.

Julie Waits presented the Conservation Committee report and announced that there will not be a Sutton Award winner until after all four issues of the journal for 2018 are out. Once that is complete, the committee will evaluate articles and select a winner to be presented at the 2020 SWAN meeting.

Celia López González was appointed as the new chair of the Student Awards Committee and presented the report. She began by thanking the judges of the McCarley Student Research Awards. There were 18 applications and 8 awards will be made at the banquet. Students, please do not forget about this award and apply next year. The award is for \$1000 and can be very helpful for research. Additionally, there are 22 posters in the Clark Hubbs Student Poster competition so the committee needs assistance in judging. Please talk with López González if you can judge and we need people that can speak either English or Spanish and anyone that is bilingual. Poster judges will meet at 2 PM in the poster room today to get the judging forms. Winners will be announced at the banquet.

The Publicity and Public Relations Committee chaired by Chris Taylor (in collaboration with Kathrin Dodds) spent its time fighting the construction of the border wall, particularly in Texas. Construction has begun in some areas and they have cleared 150-foot-wide areas where the wall will be constructed. To fulfill all the responsibilities of the committee, Taylor is in need of more members and at least one from Mexico to help communicate award winner information to universities. If you are interested, please talk with Chris Taylor.

Perea-Fox gave the report for the Development Committee in place of Mark Eberle and the primary directive was better electronic communication through email and other means about meetings and the Association in general. The second directive was to develop an online-only option for SWAN's journal, *The Southwestern Naturalist*. Additionally, the committee suggested that journal articles be available online as soon as they are ready. Finally, Perea-Fox asked the BOG if we can merge the *ad hoc* Long-Range Planning Committee into the Development Committee. The BOG agreed. Additional discussion about the constitutional requirements of the Development committee led to the formation of an *ad hoc* Constitution Review Committee chaired by Stanley Fox with Jake Schaefer and Karen McBee as members. They were charged with updating the language in the constitution and suggesting changes to be voted on in the future. After further discussion about SWAN's communication issues and online presence, an *ad hoc* Communication in the 21st Century Committee was formed that will be chaired by Jesús Fernández with Jason Strickland, Justin Agan, and Enrique Santoyo Brito as members. This committee is charged with improving SWAN's outreach through social media and other outlets to increase SWAN's prominence.

Stanley Fox gave the Program Committee report and announced we have venues for SWAN for the next three years. Sam Houston State University at Huntsville, Texas, will be hosting in 2020, Texas Tech at Junction, Texas, will be in 2021, and Universidad Juárez del Estado de Durango in 2022. If you are interested in hosting after 2022, talk with Fox. Fox maintains a spreadsheet and manual to give to each Local Committee to assist them with hosting a SWAN meeting.

Karen McBee presented the historian report and has been gathering information to deposit in the SWAN archives. McBee is stepping down from the committee after this year and will be replaced by Eddie Marsh-Matthews.

Stanley Fox gave the International Relations Committee report. The committee modified the rules over the past year for the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Award to make it easier to apply and easier to track. This year 18 awards for the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Award will be made. This remains a very successful program within SWAN.

Justin Agan gave the Student Advisory Committee report. The committee is sponsoring Lunch with a Scientist today during lunch and there will be a students-only social tonight in the hour before the picnic. The workshop this year will be about coding in R and students are encouraged to attend as there will be food tomorrow during lunch for those that are there. The committee is in need of more student members as well as a Spanish-speaking co-chair. If you are interested, please talk with Justin.

Jake Schaefer announced that there were 17 applications for the Wilks and Student Field Natural History awards and the winners of this morning's competition will be announced at the banquet.

Perea-Fox gave the editor's report and announced that the journal is currently behind but will be getting on track very soon. Issues 2 and 3 have been sent to the press and issue 4 is almost full.

New business included a presentation about SWAN 2020 at Sam Houston State University which the membership will see shortly. The meeting ended with all BOG appointed officers reappointed unanimously.

President Perea-Fox then announced that we would move on to brief committee reports.

Ray Willis gave the Treasurer's report and reported on the current income and expenses of SWAN as well as a membership update. The income for 2018 was \$109,153.25, the expenses were \$98,855.70 and the net income was \$10,297.55.

The Trustees report was given by Chad Hargrave. No additional information was added from the secretary's report, but David Heins needs to be reelected. David Heins was moved to reelection by Stanley Fox and seconded by Juliann Waits. The motion was approved unanimously.

Juliann Waits gave the Conservation Committee report and had nothing to add outside of the secretary's report.

Celia López González gave the report for the Student Awards Committee and reminded the members that the Howard McCarley Student Research Award winners and the Clark Hubbs Student Poster award winners will be announced at the banquet.

Chris Taylor gave the report for the Public Relations and Publicity Committee and stated that the committee needs new members to help with press relations, particularly in Mexico. Stanley Fox reminded the membership that this is a very important committee and we need people on it, particularly in the current environment.

Stanley Fox gave the Membership Committee report in lieu of Nicté Ordóñez Garza and had nothing to add outside the secretary's report.

Susana Perea-Fox gave the Development Committee report and reminded the membership that we subsumed the responsibilities of the *ad hoc* Long-range Planning Committee into the responsibilities for the Development Committee and dissolved the *ad hoc* committee. Mark Eberle will chair the committee. Perea-Fox also stated that SWAN will make articles available online as soon as they are in their final format after copy-editing. Please go to BioOne to view and download journal articles and notes.

Program Director Stanley Fox gave the report for the Program Committee and had nothing to add outside of the secretary's summary.

Karen McBee gave the Historian's report and requested that members please send material about SWAN to her so they can be deposited in the archives.

Stanley Fox presented the report of the International Relations Committee in place of Perea-Fox and Romero Almaraz. Fox stated that this is an important committee and asked for new members, especially Spanish speaking ones.

Susana Perea-Fox gave the Website Committee report and said that this committee will become an oversight/advisory committee for the website since the website is run by Christy Classi currently.

Justin Agan gave the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) report and asked that winners of SAC travel awards find Ray Willis, the Treasurer, to receive their awards.

President-elect Jake Schaefer gave the report for the Wilks/Student Field Natural History Award Committee and had nothing to add outside of the secretary's summary.

Celia López González gave the report for the *ad hoc* Disposition of Back Issues Committee and had nothing to add outside of the secretary's summary.

Robert Edwards gave the report for the Budget Oversight Committee and stated that the Board of Trustees is doing an excellent job and the committee is looking forward to the treasurer's report and budget.

Perea-Fox gave the Managing Editor report in lieu of Lance Williams and said we are behind on the journal. The BOG also decided on a copyright policy that once an article is available the way to share on social media and websites is to share the link rather than the article itself, so access is still done through BioOne. Ray Willis asked for reviewers for Mammals and Reptiles to help get the journal back on time.

Past President Phil Sudman gave the report for the Honors Committee and reminded the membership that there are four Distinguished Awards available and if you want to nominate someone send materials to Susana Perea-Fox. The remainder of the report will be given at the banquet.

Jesús Fernández gave the report for the Local Committee. Fernández and Ángela Camargo Sanabria co-chaired the Local Committee. Fernández announced that everyone will need a jacket if you attend the picnic. Students will be taken by bus early and non-students will go to the Sheraton Hotel after the poster session and then to the picnic at 6:30 PM.

Perea-Fox announced that the *ad hoc* Auction Committee was not active and had no report. However, Justin Williams has agreed to serve as chair of the committee for 2020. If you have any donations for the auction, please contact Williams.

Perea-Fox moved to old business and stated that Christy Classi will have a new contract. Classi could manage meeting registration if SWAN and the Local Committee wants. Perea-Fox moved to New Business.

Chad Hargrave presented information pertaining to the 67th Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists to be held at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, on 23-26 April 2020. Celia López González translated in Spanish. There is no airport in Huntsville, Texas, but there will be shuttles to pick up groups of people from Bush International Airport in Houston, Texas. Huntsville is located on I-45 so it is an easy drive to get to the university. The University Hotel on campus is the best option for lodging but it is first-come, first-served, so book early. There are also several hotels along the interstate that can be used. The conference will take place primarily at the Lowman Student Center on campus. The picnic will be held at a winery outside of Huntsville, Texas. On Sunday morning, there will be two field trips offered. One will be to the experimental field station and another to a state park led by a

nature guide. The committee looks forward to seeing everyone in Huntsville at Sam Houston State University in 2020.

Perea-Fox announced that if you are participating in Lunch with a Scientist, meet outside the room with Justin Agan.

Following a motion by Stanley Fox, a second by Jason Strickland, and unanimous approval, the Business Meeting recessed at 1236 h to reconvene at the banquet. The membership gave a round of applause.

The Business Meeting reconvened at the Annual Banquet on Saturday 13 April 2019 at 1815 h with Oscar Alberto FloresVilella giving a presentation entitled “The history of herpetological exploration in Mexico.”

President Perea-Fox then announced the four new BOG members: Jesús Fernández, Chris Taylor, Cornelio Sánchez Henández, and Gamaliel Castañeda Gaytán.

Phil Sudman, Immediate Past-President and Chair of the Honors Committee, announced the Donald W. Tinkle Research Excellence Award went to Karen McBee from Oklahoma State University.

Stanley Fox, Chair of the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Award Subcommittee, presented the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Awards. The 2019 awards were granted to: Justin Agan, Rebecca Bingham, McKenna Burns, Rebecca Butler, Taylor Carlson, Oceane Da Cunha, Jessica Davin, Samantha Hannabass, Mary Jones, Danielle Kirsch, Joshua Mead, Donella Strom, Kameron Voves, Jessica Watson, Allison Wells, Sarah Winnicki, Leah Woolam, and Benjamin Zamzow.

Justin Agan, Chair of the Student Advisory Committee (SAC), presented the SAC Travel Awards to Andrea Trejo Escamilla, Fernando Mayani Parás, Cynthia Dinorah Flores Aguirre, Eliphaleth Carmona Gómez, Annamaría Savarino Drago, Yafhed Martínez Hernández, Ana Estrada, Elizabeth C. Góngora Landeros, Fernando Álvarez Córdova, and Luis Enrique Sosa Caballero.

Celia López González, Chair of the Student Awards Committee, thanked the Student Awards Committee members who helped evaluate the applicants for the 2019 student awards. She announced the eight recipients of the Howard McCarley Student Research Awards for \$1,000 USD each. Awards were given to William Coleman, Ph.D. student at Texas State University for “Variance in genetic diversity of an endangered freshwater beetle before and after an adverse climatic event” and advised by Drs. Chris Nice and Benjamin Schwartz; Melanie Kazenel, Ph.D. student at the University of New Mexico for “Causes and consequences of long-term change in bee abundance and diversity” and advised by Drs. Jennifer Rudgers and Kenneth Whitney; Justin Agan, Ph.D. student at Oklahoma State University for “Potential temperature override of genotypic sex determination in the lizard *Crotaphytus collaris*” and advised by Dr. Stanley Fox; Ali Villanueva, Ph.D. student at Instituto Politécnico Nacional for “Phylogeny and phylogeography of the *Peromyscus truei* species complex (Rodentia: Cricetidae)” and advised by Dr. Miguel Mauricio Correa Ramírez; Taylor Carlson, M.S. student at Oklahoma State University for “Use of eDNA to confirm extant presence of the Ringed Salamander (*Ambystoma annulatum*) in Oklahoma” and advised by Drs. Stanley Fox and Elisa Cabrera Guzmán; Kameron Voves, M.S. student at Missouri State University for “Uncovering the trophic niches of aquatic turtles in a system with reintroduced Alligator Snapping Turtles” and advised by Dr. Day Ligon; Martha Domínguez, B.S. student at Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua for “Diversity and distribution of saprobic macromycetes fungi from the Mohinora Mountain area of protection of

flora and fauna, Chihuahua, Mexico ” and advised by Dr. José Humberto Vega Mares; and Danielle Kirsch, Ph.D. student at Oklahoma State University for “Behavioral and Physiological effects of safety cues” and advised by Dr. Barney Luttbeg.

López González then thanked the numerous poster reviewers and announced the 2019 recipients of the Clark Hubbs Student Poster Award: First place (\$600), Luz María Sil Berra (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México) and colleagues, “Vulnerability to natural disturbance among bat functional groups in the Mexican Pacific Coast;” second place (\$400), Daniel Mateo Rangel Reséndez (Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León) and colleagues, “Land use change and vegetation fragmentation in the distribution area of Worthen’s Sparrow (*Spizella wortheni*);” and third place, Andrea Escamilla Trejo (Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León) and colleagues, “Microhabitat factors associated to the Worthen’s Sparrow (*Spizella wortheni*) breeding success in Llano de la Soledad, Galeana, Nuevo León, México.”

Jake Schaefer, President-Elect and Chair of the Wilks/Student Field Natural History Award Committee asked the three student competitors to come forward and gave them each a check for \$250 to offset travel costs to the meeting. He then presented the 2019 Student Field Naturalist Award to Annamaria Savarino Drago (\$1,000) from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México for her talk entitled “Breeding success and spatial use of habitat of the Mexican endemic Sierra Madre Sparrow in the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt” and the Wilks Award to Eliphaleth Carmona Gómez (\$1000) from Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León for his work entitled “Association between parental activity and nest predation in Worthen’s Sparrow (*Spizella wortheni*) in Galeana, Nuevo León.”

President Perea-Fox then thanked the Local Representatives and Local Committee for a job well done. They received a round of applause from the membership.

Jason Strickland and Miguel Borja read, and the membership adopted, the following resolutions, which were authored by Justin Agan, Jesús Fernández, and Jason Strickland.

“First off, we would like to thank all the students and faculty who assisted in making the SWAN resolutions this year.

En primer lugar, nos gustaría agradecer a todos los estudiantes y profesores que ayudaron a escribir las resoluciones del SWAN este año.

We hereby present the resolutions of the 66th Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists.

Presentamos las resoluciones de la 66^{ava} Reunión Anual de la Southwestern Association of Naturalists.

Whereas, the 66th annual meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists was held in the beautiful city of Chihuahua, Mexico, during 11-14 April 2019,

Puesto que, la 66^{ava} Reunión Anual de la Southwestern Association of Naturalists se llevó a cabo en la hermosa ciudad de Chihuahua, México, del 11 al 14 de abril de 2019,

And whereas, scientific discoveries were exchanged in multiple languages from a wide array of biological disciplines spanning morphology, physiology, genetics, demography, reproduction, phylogeography, behavior, ecology, and conservation,

Y puesto que, muchos descubrimientos científicos se intercambiaron en varios idiomas, en diferentes disciplinas de la biología, desde la morfología, la fisiología, la genética, la demografía, la reproducción, la filogeografía, el comportamiento, la ecología y la conservación,

And whereas, upon arrival, the SWAN attendees found out they would be in the heart of the Tour de Chihuahua and dodging bikes on their way to lunch each day,

Y puesto que, a su llegada, los asistentes al SWAN se dieron cuenta que estarían en el corazón del Tour de Chihuahua y tendrían que esquivar bicicletas en su camino al almuerzo todos los días,

And whereas, Jesús Fernández learned that hosting a meeting is really just coordinating and dispatching buses all day,

Y puesto que, Jesús Fernández aprendió que ser el anfitrión de una reunión es realmente solo coordinar la llegada y salida de los autobuses todo el día,

And whereas, the exorbitant wait for coffee during the break was made worth it by the sight of the SWAN logo in a watermelon, the amount and diversity of food available, and SWAN's first ever furry,

Y puesto que, la exorbitante espera por el café durante el descanso valió la pena al ver el logo de SWAN en una sandía, la cantidad y diversidad de comida disponible, y la presencia por primera vez de una botarga,

And whereas, a woman's bra was lost despite alcohol not being involved and eventually returned, which led to the discovery that black is not Celia López González's color,

Y puesto que, un sostén se perdió a pesar de que no hubo alcohol de por medio y eventualmente regresó, lo que llevó al descubrimiento de que el color negro no es el color favorito de Celia López González,

And whereas, the dog at the picnic had the best day of its life but the people in attendance could not drink enough wine and beer to stay warm,

Y puesto que, el perro en el picnic tuvo el mejor día de su vida, aunque la gente que asistió a ese evento no pudo beber el vino y la cerveza suficientemente rápido para mantenerse caliente,

And whereas, at least one student found out that, in the dark, gorditas may look like cookies but in fact, they are not cookies,

Y puesto que, al menos un estudiante se dio cuenta que, en la oscuridad, que las gorditas pueden parecer galletas, pero en realidad las gorditas no son galletas,

And whereas, two age-dependent strategies for staying warm arose during the picnic with one outlier, Stanley "El Zorro" Fox, was observed in a conga line rather than huddled around the bonfire with his age cohort,

Y puesto que, dos estrategias para mantenerse calientes surgieron durante el picnic, con un punto de datos afuera de los demás, Stanley "El Zorro" Fox fue observado en la línea de la conga en lugar de acurrucarse en la fogata con su cohorte de edad,

And whereas, because everyone ate so many appetizers before the picnic, Jesús ended up with a whole pig's worth of food in the back of his car,

Y puesto que, debido a que todos comieron muchos aperitivos antes del picnic, Jesús terminó con una porción gigantesca de comida de cerdo en la parte trasera de su carro,

And whereas, Phil Sudman and the Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua students almost didn't make it off the party bus after the picnic due to the continuation of the drinking and dancing,

Y puesto que, Phil Sudman y los estudiantes de la Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua estuvieron a punto de no bajarse del autobús después del picnic debido a que querían seguir bebiendo y bailando,

And whereas, the U.S. members were glad Trump didn't close the borders before SWAN, we are now hoping it remains open long enough to get back,

Y puesto que, los miembros estuvieron felices de que Trump no cerrara la frontera antes de la reunión del SWAN, y ahora estamos deseando que la frontera continúe abierta lo suficiente para poder regresar,

And whereas, SWAN was live tweeted for the first time with the hashtag SWAN2019, thanks to Sarah Winnicki and a few others, and @SWANMeeting currently has a whopping 33 followers,

Y puesto que, el SWAN estuvo tuiteado en vivo por primera vez con el hashtag SWAN2019, gracias a Sarah Winnicki y otras pocas personas, y @SWANMeeting actualmente tiene la sorprendente cantidad de 33 seguidores,

And whereas, SWAN is finally moving into the new century by updating the constitution, updating the tax-exempt status, updating incorporation, communicating through social media, and finally opting to have an online-only option for the journal after it was acknowledged that times are changing,

Y puesto que, el SWAN está finalmente entrando al nuevo milenio al actualizar la constitución, actualizar el estatus de exento de impuestos, actualizar la incorporación, comunicándose a través de las redes sociales, y finalmente optando por tener una opción sólo en línea para la revista después de que se reconoció que los tiempos están cambiando,

And whereas, SWAN continues to demonstrate their dedication to students,
Y puesto que, SWAN continúa demostrando su dedicación a los estudiantes,

And whereas, SWAN also continues to promote international collaborations and reach across borders to uphold the universality of naturalism,

Y puesto que, SWAN también continúa fomentando la colaboración internacional y extendiendo su alcance a través de las fronteras para sostener la universalidad del naturalismo,

And whereas, academic families enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect annually,

Y puesto que, las familias académicas han disfrutado la oportunidad para volverse a reunir,

And whereas, academics and lay naturalists were able to come together and discuss biology,

Y puesto que, los académicos y naturalistas no profesionales se han podido reunir y conversar acerca de la biología,

And whereas, every member of SWAN has enjoyed the hospitality of a superb Local Committee spearheaded by Jesús Fernández and Ángela Camargo Sanabria and all of the students from the Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, and Jesús and Ángela have also been extremely helpful to all the people that approached saying No Hablo Español.

Y puesto que, cada miembro de SWAN ha disfrutado de la hospitalidad de un excelente Comité Local encabezado por Jesús Fernández y Ángela Camargo Sanabria y todos los estudiantes de la Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, y Jesús y Ángela también han tenido la gentileza de ayudar a toda la gente que se acercaba diciendo No Hablo Español,

Therefore, be it resolved, we thank all volunteers and supporters of SWAN and the Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua for allowing us to convene in your beautiful city and hold our 66th Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists.

Por lo tanto, se resuelve que agradecemos a todos los voluntarios y simpatizantes del SWAN y a la Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua por permitir reunirnos en su hermosa ciudad y celebrar nuestra 66^{ava} Reunión Anual de la Southwestern Association of Naturalists.

President Perea-Fox then thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, invited the membership to the 67th Annual Meeting in Huntsville, Texas, presented Jake Schaefer as the new SWAN President, and declared the meeting adjourned at 2116 h.

Respectfully submitted
Jason Strickland
Secretary