



SOUTHWEST VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

SWVMA Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 10:00AM-11:30AM
Meeting on TEAMS

Meeting Minutes March 1, 2023

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer, mobile app or room device
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Meeting ID: 280 597 446 564
Passcode: WmtUkR

CALLED TO ORDER: (X=present; E=excused; A=absent)

A. New Advisory Board members: Introductions / Roll Call / Call to Order

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. Juanita Armstrong, President - X | Maricopa County Parks |
| b. Corina Anderson, Vice President - E | SWCA |
| c. Mary Fastiggi, Secretary X | McDowell Sonoran Conservancy |
| d. Nick Brasier, Treasurer X | SWCA |
| e. Willie Sommers, Past President E | AZ Department of Forestry & Fire Mgmt. |
| f. Dan McLendon, Board Member A | American Conservation Experience |
| g. Tom Dinn, Board Member A | Cinven |
| h. Curt Deuser, Board Member X | National Park Service |
| i. Andy Pigg, Board Member E | USDA Coconino NF |
| j. Jen Becker, Board Member X | Pima County Flood Control |
| k. Board Member | (VACANT) |
| l. Tom Ohmart, At Large Board Member - E | Retired |

Other participants –Peter Lefebvre, Michael Chamberland

B. Meeting Called to Order:

- Approve Meeting Minutes from Feb 1, 2023. Juanita Called the motion, Nick Brasier second the motion, meeting notes approved

C. Treasurer Report: The treasurer reported that the total Fall Conference profit was \$3,989.16, after the latest expense paid. One transaction on 2/24 for \$163.28 payment to Amazon – look into it to make sure its something we purchased. Our total balance is \$14,579.48.

D. Secretary Report: Secretary has created a Gmail drive and Juanita has created folders and added documents.

E. Old Business:

- Bank Update Signatories: Willie, Corina, Juanita and Nick, meet at back in Phoenix set date. Corina and Nick will meet in Flagstaff to turn over the banking signatory and Juanita will work with Willie in Phoenix.
- Insurance Update: Good
- Grants Update: None
- Website Updates: None
- Updates or discussion on the new invaders/EDD data sent out: As anticipated AzDA went forward with the new rule changes pertaining to both noxious weeds and their seeds. The new proposal merges what used to be two lists. The rule proposal is posted on the Secy of State's website for public scrutiny and comment. The official wording DOES include African Sumac (*Rhus searsia/lancea*). There will be one single public hearing to give the opportunity for people to



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support or oppose all or parts of the proposal. Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 1pm at Arizona Department of Agriculture 1110 W. Washington St., Suite 450 Phoenix, AZ 85007. Some new species added include: Class A – Globe-podded hoary cress, Class B – African Sumac, Riggut Brome, Siberian Elm, Class C – Cheatgrass, Lehman’s lovegrass, Red brome, Siberian Elm.

- F. NAISMA Updates Eleanor 10 minutes: Our membership has expired; the last conference was in Fall 2022. Needs to be set up where all of the SWVMA board can access the materials, including webinars and other resources. Put the link on our website. Juanita will look at the membership options and we will review at the next meeting. Think about who wants to represent SWVMA with NAISMA.
- G. New Business:
 - a. Advocacy:
 - i. Need for training, which is an issue across multiple organizations. There was discussion on the need for practical, hands-on training workshops for practitioners. Also, public outreach needs to be connected to activities to keep people engaged.
 - 1. Could put information on the website announcement page and Facebook page:
 - a. Maricopa County pull day flyers
 - b. Sonoran Desert Cooperative Area: can add these to the website
 - ii. Jennifer Becker environmental awareness pamphlets, which was sent out after the meeting to the board by email. **Discuss** – can a template be shared? It is an in-design file. Can AZG&F review or partner on this?
 - b. Conference Updates: The Conference Committee agreed on an in-person conference only (vs. offering a virtual option as well) to encourage attendance and boost revenue. Several potential venues were discussed, with emphasis on proximity to the proposed Gila River field trip and audio/visual technology available. Next steps would be determining an estimate on guests, a ballpark budget, and dates so that reservations can be made. Also, if we go with a hotel conference center, do we want to try and secure room discounts? The theme we discussed is “Habitat Enhancement along Arizona’s River Corridors.” Also, from Willie: RiversEdgeWest will have a workshop in Tucson 10/13/23 that focuses on riparian restoration. It is part of three workshops this year, here is the link: <https://riversedgewest.org/events/riversedge-west-workshop-tucson-az>. We should keep tabs on their date and what will be presented. We wouldn't want to overlap their workshop with our annual conference.
 - c. Bald Brome? on Navajo Nation Priority Weeds list; it was submitted to Willie – discuss next meeting.

Board-Appointed Positions	*Bold indicates a standing committee, others are ad hoc
Representative to North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA)	Eleanor Gladding
Advocacy	John Scheuring, Tyler Bowen
Website Committee	Mary Fastiggi, <i>Juanita Armstrong can assist</i>
Facebook Admin.	Nick Brasier, <i>Juanita & Corina can assist</i>
Committees	
Grants	<i>Willie S., Curt Deuser, Juanita</i>



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Strategic Planning /Operational Plan	<i>Juanita, Corina and Willie</i>
Weed Management Areas	<i>Kim Franklin, Willie Sommers, and Corina Anderson</i>
State Weed List	<i>John Scheuring, John Brock and Patti Fenner</i>
Conference Planning	<i>Corina Anderson, Juanita Armstrong, Willie Sommers, Tom Ohmart and Dan McLendon</i>
Education/Conservation	<i>Michael C, John S, Peter Lefebvre</i>
Sponsorship	<i>Tom Ohmart and Tom Dinn?</i>
Nominating	<i>Willie and Tom Ohmart</i>

H. Round Robin (*if time permits*) – brief updates from Board members and participants related to vegetation management:

- It is National Invasive Species Awareness Week – send your social media posts over and SWVMA can reshare
- Michael C working on educational materials and workshops

I. Adjourn - Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 @10:00 am

Adjourned

Action items:

- Vote someone in as the NAISMA contact
- Look up bald brome
- Review noxious weed information for the person who is attending - Attend Noxious Weed meeting
- Vice President and Treasurer to review Amazon purchase