



SOUTHWEST VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

SWVMA Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 10:00AM-11:30AM
Meeting on TEAMS

Meeting Minutes April 5, 2023

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer, mobile app or room device
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
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 X | SWCA |
| c. Mary Fastiggi, Secretary X | McDowell Sonoran Conservancy |
| d. Nick Brasier, Treasurer X | SWCA |
| e. Willie Sommers, Past President X | AZ Department of Forestry & Fire Mgmt. |
| f. Dan McLendon, Board Member A | American Conservation Experience |
| g. Tom Dinn, Board Member | 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- A | Retired |

Other participants – John Scheuring - ; Peter Lefebvre -X , Michael Chamberland X-; Kyle Seisinger - A
Tom Dinn -A, Peggy Monkeneier – X, Denice Baldwin – X

B. Meeting Called to Order:

- Approve Meeting Minutes from March 1, 2023. – Several changes proposed, March minutes will be approved in May.

C. Treasurer Report: Unauthorized purchase was re-funded. bank transactions. Refunded by Amazon, letters have been sent to confirm we are disputing the charge. And how much do we want to offer in grants? Who want to update the grant info. To be announced at the conference. \$14,742.76, current balance. Form 990 was uploaded to IRS. Free to file.

D. Secretary Report: Mary has created a Gmail drive and Juanita has created folders and added documents. Two emails came through this past month: one request for information on stinknet removal and one for a news story on invasives, which will be covered below.

E. Old Business:

- Bank Update Signatories (Willie, Corina, Juanita and Nick – looking for a date for transfer in April).
- Insurance Update: Good
- Grants Update: Do we want to begin a 2023 grant series?
- Website Updates: none
- Updates or discussion on the new invaders/EDD data sent out? none
- EPA pesticide registration review – open for comments



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- i. Noxious Weed Update: African Sumac. There is a need for written comments to be submitted when the public comment period opens. 30-day open comment period March 12-April 12. https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2023/7/contents.pdf
 - 1. Written comments send to jlegg@azda.gov

- A. NAISMA Updates Willie would take on this Role-work with Elanor to transfer over and then we need to discuss, approve the cost, and pay it. Issue – their conference is the same date as SWVMA conference
- B. New Business:
 - a. Advocacy:
 - i. Channel 12 News Interview: Friday morning about, “Arizona's increase in vegetation this year and fire prevention heading into the summer” – Mary to add link to website once posted
 - ii. New Invader?? *Mathiola parviflora*-Discuss do we need ad this to the new invaders watch list? Another invader: *Chorispora tenella*
 - iii. Other Advocacy and Awareness needed.
 - iv. Updates to website for invasive species-use the data on the MCPRD Desert Invaders and have small pic similar to the AZNPS webpage – Juanita to work on adding to the website, and Mary can help with future info sheets as a summer project.
 - v. Arizona Gives Day cost is \$50? Assign and get set up. May be too late again – too late this year.
 - b. Conference Updates: Date is set Wed, October 18th – Thurs, 19th Conversation at the next meeting. DBG has no dates available. We are estimating costs for 80-100 people. **Events on Jackson** open on this date. \$6,000 for the room, and catering is additional. **Wigwam** is another option. They have blocks of rooms, in addition to the conference center. \$11,360 – as long as you have \$6,000 in food, the room is free. The field trip will be held on Thursday. Total cost is approximately \$15,000 for either venue. What meals coffee and continental breakfast, lunch. Cocktail hour. Field trip lunch. Cost per person of conference? 2020 cost per person 2020 ~8K in sponsorship. 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. Flagstaff venue in 2019 was \$17,290.46 for venue and catering, plus additional costs for raffle prizes and other needs. No alcohol was included.

Board-Appointed Positions	* Bold indicates a standing committee, others are ad hoc
Representative to North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA)	Willie Sommers



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Advocacy	John Scheuring, Tyler Bowen
Website Committee	Mary Fastiggi, <i>Juanita Armstrong</i>
Facebook Admin.	<i>Nick Brasier</i>
Committees	
Grants	<i>Willie S., Curt Deuser, Juanita</i>
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: Skipped in the interest of time.

Cave Creek – Test of Stinknet control with U of A Extension

April 11th, Stinknet Symposium – 9am-3pm <https://forms.gle/JFeiSh5QVUqhwKKH8>

Friday, Buffelgrass policy and management workshop from Arizona Desert Sonoran Museum – 9am-1pm

I. Adjourn - Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 @10:00 am