

Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Minutes

September 6, 2013

TWDB SFA Building Room 170

Austin, Texas

The meeting was convened by David Villarreal, Texas Department of Agriculture on September 6, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. Committee members attending were Dr. Ron Billings of Texas Forest Service, Mel Davis of Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, Dr. Barron Rector of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Dr. Earl Chilton of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and Mark Wentzel of Texas Water Development Board.

Guests: Loren Warrick (TSSWCB), Charlotte Reemts (TNC), Amanda Fowler (TxDot), Dennis Markwardt (TxDot), Damon Waitt (UT), Susan Bagget (NRCS), Rusty Ray (TSSWCB), Justin Wall (USDA-APHIS), Bruce Leland (USDA-APHIS), Ron Hufford (TFA), Caimee Schoenbaechler (TWDB), Carla Guthrie (TWDB), David Britton (USFWS), Lucas Gregory (TWRI), Jay Bragg (Texas Farm Bureau), Cindy Hobson (TPWD), Johnny Oswald (TSSWCB), Kelly Conrad Simon (TPWD), Sky Lewey (NRA), Kristen Fuchs (TDA), Lance Williams (TDA), Rob Plowes (UT Austin), Larry Gilbert (TPWD), Awinash Bhatkar (TDA)

David Villarreal called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Villarreal began the meeting with introductions across the room. The meeting started with call to order and approval of the March 12, 2013 meeting minutes. Barron made a motion and Davis 2nd the motion and the majority ruled the meeting minutes were approved. Elections on New Chairperson and Vice-Chair needed to be done, David Villarreal nominated Mel Davis to take over as new chair, the motion was 2nd by Dr. Barron Rector, the vote carried by the majority and Davis was named the new Chairman. Mel Davis nominated Earl Chilton as the Vice-Chairman; Ron Billings 2nd the motion, the vote carried by the majority and Dr. Chilton was named the new Vice-Chairman.

Ongoing projects, updates, and briefs were brought forth to the committee. Dr. Earl Chilton (TPWD) updated everyone on Aquatic Invasives. Justin Wall (USDA-APHIS) gave an update on the programs. Dr. David Britton gave an update on USFWS Invasives. Aaron Wendt (TSSWCB) gave an update Brush Control and Water Enhancement. Dr. Allen Knutson gave an update on the Saltcedar Control efforts by Texas A&M AgriLife Dallas. Bruce Leland gave a feral hog management update. Drs. Larry Gilbert and Rob Plowes updated the group Texas Invasive Species Research Program.