

Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Minutes

February 11, 2015

TWDB SFA Building Room 170

Austin, Texas

The meeting was convened by Mel Davis, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board on February 11, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. Committee members attending were Dr. Ron Billings of Texas A&M 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, Dr. Awinash Bhatkar of Texas Department of Agriculture, and Mark Wentzel of Texas Water Development Board.

Mel Davis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Davis began the meeting with a call to order and approval of the July 9, 2014 meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved with a motion made by Dr. Ron Billings of the Texas A&M Forest Service and Dr. Barron Rector of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension 2nd the motion the majority ruled and the meeting minutes were approved.

Ongoing projects, updates, and briefs were brought forth to the committee. Aaron Wendt and Loren Warrick of the TSSWCB began the meeting with an open discussion on funding opportunities through federal and state grants that might interest the committee. The committee suggested that Aaron Wendt lead an effort in writing a proposal for some of these funds that could help with the invasive issues in the state of Texas. NRCS representative Russell Castro spoke to the committee about opportunities through NRCS that could provide funding and help with resources in response to invasive problems. Dale Scott of TDA spoke about the new registration for toxicants to control feral hogs in Texas. Dr. Michael Bodenchuck of USDA Wildlife Services gave an update on the National Feral Damage Management Program. The Greater Caddo Lake Association of Texas spoke about their locally led efforts to combat the Giant Salvia problem in the Caddo Lake.

The meeting was adjourned and the future meeting was planned to happen on April 21, 2015 in College Station.

Respectfully submitted,

Loren Warrick (TSSWCB)