



**TEXAS GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING**  
**TGWA 76th ANNUAL CONVENTION, SAN MARCOS EMBASSY SUITES**  
**Thursday, January 26, 2023, 4:30pm**  
**MINUTES**

**1. Call to order Annual Board Meeting – President William McPike**

William called the meeting to order at 4:37pm. Pete gave the prayer. The following board members were in attendance: Alex Neely, Ezequiel Cervantes, Chris Lange, Jason Yonce, David Dennett, Jaythan Browning, Bill Stein, Steve Musick, John Waugh, Russell Southerland, Patrick Casarez, Vickie Ross, Terry Lowe, Dennis Kern, Ross Smart, Mike Pyburn, Bill Stoner, Don McElroy, Bill Lange, Clark Abel, Robert Wagstaff, Pete Brien, Kelley Cochran, Amy Bush, Robert “Bob” Hill, Josh Barrett, Lacey Nivens, Jacob Strunk, Roger Russell, John Julian, Robert Dilldine, and Jimmy Vela.

Guests: Zach Holland, Adam Roberts, Ryan Arnett, Ann McElroy, Leroy Goodson, Veronica Jones, Debora Wagstaff, Stacey Steinbach, Dillon Bybee, Leroy Barrett,

**2. Introduction of TGWA Executive Director – Bobby Bazan**

William introduced Bobby Bazan. Bobby introduced himself.

**3. Confirmation of TGWA President – John Julian**

*Pursuant to the Bylaws, so long as the President-Elect continues to be a member of the board, s/he shall become the President of the Association one year after s/he officially becomes President-Elect.*

John was confirmed as TGWA president. Bill Stoner moved, and Terry Lowe seconded the motion to vote John Julian in as President, and the motion passed unanimously. John then took over the meeting from there.

**4. Election of TGWA President-Elect**

John asked for nominations from the floor. The nominating committee proposed Chris Lange become the President-Elect. Josh Barrett and Jason Yonce seconded the motion to elect Chris Lange as the President-Elect, and the motion passed unanimously.

**5. Election of TGWA Treasurer**

John said there is no election of the treasurer position right now. The board is tabling this item for a later meeting.

**6. Division Reports and introduction of Division Chairs**

- Contractors & Drillers – Josh Barrett became the division chair. Randy Roberts stepped off the board and Russell Southerland got on the board. Josh recognized Randy’s service on the board.
- Manufacturers & Suppliers – Robert Dilldine remained the division chair. There were six nominees for one board seat. Justin Brisnahan from Baroid was elected to the board and Lacey Nivens was voted in as Vice-chair.
- Ground Water Science – Mike Miller became the division chair. Amy Bush became the Vice-Chair. Mike mentioned the geoscience seminar set for March 31 at the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University. This will be the third time GWS Division has hosted a seminar. Registration will open next week. There will be a discount for members. Mike thanked Rusty Tarver and Joe Vickers for their help in planning the seminar.

**7. Discussion and possible action on approval of minutes of October 29, 2022 board meeting**

Bill Stoner moved and Vickie Ross seconded the motion to approve minutes of the past meeting, and the motion passed unanimously.



## 8. Discussion and possible action on financial reports – Don McElroy, Treasurer

Don said the numbers look a lot better. Mike Pyburn highlighted the balance sheet. TGWA has \$85K more in the bank than they did this time last year. The membership dues are contributing to the increase in revenue. The budget has a target of \$188K in membership dues, and as of today the number is \$156K.

Pete Brien moved, and Bob Hill seconded the motion to approve the financial reports, and the motion passed unanimously.

## 9. TGWA Scholarship Foundation report – Pete Brien, TGWA Scholarship Foundation President

Pete reported that the foundation is doing well. The SF had a great auction and raffle. Financially, we are doing better every year. The SF will review a draft support services agreement between TGWA and SF. The SF meets tomorrow morning to nail down details and present to the TGWA board in April. The SF has 40 students on scholarship right now.

## 10. Staff Reports

- Continuing Education – Bobby Bazan – Bobby mentioned the schedule in the board packet for CE classes starting in Feb. 24. The schedule is full for April and he will be going all over the state. GICON is planning to sponsor a class at the Brush County GCD in South Texas. He provided an update on the status of the NGWA online classes. TGWA has an expiring memo and Bobby needs to talk to Terry about future plans. TGWA will be looking to alternative online options if NGWA is no longer available.
- Membership – Adeline Fox – Adeline reported that about 85% of membership dues have been collected. Staff plans to bill outstanding members one more time before cancelling.
- Fountainhead – Adeline Fox – Adeline reported that FH advertising is down due to budget cuts. Sponsorships are up because TGWA has had support from its board of directors. She encouraged everyone to seek out advertisers and support via sponsorship if possible.
- Legislative Update – Sarah Kirkle – Stacey provided the update. She reported that legislative filing has started. Water bills have been slow. One to watch is SB 156 which was filed by Sen. Perry dealing with attorney's fees. Perry is again chair of the senate Water, Ag and Rural Affairs committee. House committees haven't been assigned yet. There is a focus on requesting funding for infrastructure, science and data, and flood mitigation because of the budget surplus. No bills relating to TLDR yet. All three water-related agencies were under sunset – TWDB, TCEQ, and PUC. There was discussion about the bills in the bill tracker handout. William will oversee NGWA Fly-in with eight states and is working with Ben French to coordinate the visit.

## 11. Chapter Reports

- Alex Neely, South Texas – The chapter closed the STX bank account and donated the \$4000 to the scholarship foundation.
- Joshua Barrett, East Texas – The ETX chapter has about \$5800 in its bank account. They are considering closing it and donating it to the scholarship foundation.
- Eric McElroy, Panhandle/S. Plains – Dennis reported that there hasn't been a meeting since COVID. The chapter will try to meet in the next couple of months. Membership is way down. It might have to dissolve. They still have two students on scholarship that are on their second year.



- David Dennett, North Texas – Nothing to report. Local distributors hosting CE classes are good for TGWA, but not good for the chapters.
- Ross Smart, Central Texas – No report. Pat turned in funds to scholarship foundation.
- Open, Gulf Coast – Patrick reported that a lot of young adults have family members so they don't want to come to chapter meetings during the week. They still have their checking account.
- Open, West Texas – No report.
- Open, Mid-Coast – Mike Pyburn reported that there is some interest in meeting at the chapter level from new members.

## 12. Other Business

Bob reminded the group that we are having a cornhole tournament this evening. He thanked Andrew Bettle and Jaythan Browning for helping plan the event. He also plugged the live music.

Bobby reminded the board that the 2024 convention will be at Embassy Suites in San Marcos. TGWA is looking for the 2025 convention spot. Vickie recommended Lubbock. There was also discussion about Abilene, San Angelo, Galveston, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and The Woodlands.

## 13. Next Board Meeting – TBA; spring 2023 (we will schedule and announce all 2023 dates soon)

Board information will be sent out soon. There has been discussion of moving the meetings around the state. It was proposed to have the next board meeting on April 22 in Lubbock following a CE class on April 21 CE class in Lubbock. John Julian recommended going to Lubbock for the next meeting and Vickie Ross seconded the motion to approve the meeting date and location, and the motion passed unanimously. Need room blocks and confirm meeting space. John thanked William McPike and the staff.

## 14. Adjournment of Annual Board Meeting

Bill Stoner moved to adjourn the meeting and Bill Lange seconded the motion to approve. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.

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## Call to Order of Annual Membership Meeting

*No agenda items noted; pursuant to the Bylaws, one of the Board's regular meetings must include an annual membership meeting; take public comment, if any*

## Adjournment of Annual Membership Meeting

None