



**ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES LAW SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, August 6, 2014, 3:00-5:00 PM,  
Four Season's Hotel Waterloo Room (lobby level)  
Austin, Texas**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Phone: Amie Richardson, Ed Quinones. In person: Mike Nasi, David Klein, Steve McMillen, Susan Maxwell, Jean Flores, Connie Westfall, Walt Shelton, Bayne Phillippi, Cindy Bishop, Rebecca Skiba, Allison Exall, Craig Pritzlaff, Andy Tarrant, Mary Mendoza

**Welcome and Introductions – Mike Nasi**

**Minutes (June 11, 2014 Meeting) – Rebecca Skiba**

Allison Exall moved to approve the minutes (and Susan Maxwell seconded) with changes by Susan Maxwell (correct spelling of Mary Sahs last name) and Bayne Phillippi (add "ppi" to his name). All approved.

**Treasurer's Report – Arnoldo Medina (presented by email in advance of meeting - text copied below, report attached to e-mail incorporated by reference).**

Attached is the financial report through June and July 2014, along with a detailed transaction summary. These reports are preliminary as the QA/QC is not complete (I need to have some items corrected on the detailed summary relating to budget categories, etc.) and other details like updated budget numbers are not completely incorporated yet; however, they do provide a good snapshot of income and expenses that have come in through July.

Additional large invoices/expenses that are not reflected in these reports and that were received in the last week:

Superconference expenses (Rainmaker and A.Breed invoices) = \$2032.79

Bausehaus website tech support (Superconference related) = \$3000

Environmental Law Journal Issue 44:1 invoice = \$4284.14

Overall, the Superconference registrations are going well, and paypal and credit card transactions are working, along with receipt of hardcopy checks, etc.

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In terms of Sponsorships, we have received funds from all sponsors except two, for a total of \$33,000 received to date. We anticipate the additional sponsors will have their checks in by late August, early September. By the end of August I will work up an updated slate of law firm sponsor logos for use for ENRLS law school programs in the coming year (for sponsor recognition).

We should be up to date on submission of expenses and processing of invoices to date, but if there are any reimbursements or expenses that are outstanding and you want to check on status, please contact me and I can check in with the State Bar Accountant, Sandra Carlson.

### **Committee Reports– Briefing, Discussion and Approval of Action Items (as applicable)**

#### **A. *Law School Committee –Walt Shelton***

##### **1. Update on law school programs and activities**

Fall UT Career Forum Panel Friday October 3 (Baylor students may be invited).  
Houston-area programs mid to late October at Bracewell & Giuliani downtown.  
Will also likely have a Tech program in the fall.  
Spring - Baylor , Texas A&M (formerly Texas Wesleyan), and SMU.  
St. Mary's - no program in recent years, but Walt is working on it.

##### **2. Status of internship programs and scholarships**

Buck Wynne - budget increased from 11k to 14k at previous meeting. 14k additional money for additional survey courses added by some schools. Will discuss next year providing scholarship to each student who tops each survey course even if schools have more than one survey course.

All six interns have completed their internship. Excellent reports from the agencies re the students, and from the interns re their experiences. Kristen Fancher got a thank you from each of the interns. Kristen Fancher is going to follow up with the agency contacts to get more information at the end of the year.

#### **B. *Technology & Website Committee –Connie Westfall***

More costs this year for technology because First Step did not give us as seamless a transition to Paypal for Superconference as we expected. So, Heather is the contact person if the credit cards don't work, which costs us money. She has been told to keep a list of issues so we can take those to First Step for changes to the contract. We think First Step will help us fix the issues.

##### **1. Report on the development of the ENRLS “App”**

We are in the process of having a presentation on what the App will do for our members, but we do not have a working App yet. Mike will give membership an update on the status at the annual meeting. Having the documents available is taking time due to volume and will include the Journal, Superconference historical materials, and downloadable code sections (Mike is going to send an e-mail requesting suggestions of code sections to include). Trying to get in-app

purchases for the Water Resources book that we could include through LawBox. Mike's firm is working on the LawBox contract terms.

## **2. Report on other ENRLS website updates and operations**

David Klein volunteered to be our Linked In moderator. Connie also suggested that we consider identifying a moderator for a site for TXENRLS on Google Plus. Jennifer Cook at TCEQ has volunteered to help with web site issues, so Connie is going to ask her if she will assist.

### **C. Publications Committee**

#### **1. Texas Environmental Law Journal ("TELJ") – Lyn Clancy**

Lyn Clancy submitted her report by email and read as follows:

Volume 44 - staffed by UT Law students for 2013/14 school year.

- I encountered same problems with many of the student editors falling VERY far behind, not keeping me updated, and then the student Editor-in-Chief became totally nonresponsive in May. I was able to get most documents from her staff, some of whom were very timely in getting their work done. The incoming Volume 45 student staff, filled the gap and have helped me get ALL of the student edits done for all of the unfinished student work for Issues 2 & 3 of Volume 44. I intend to add their names to the journals for those issues as they deserve the credit.

(1) Volume 44, Issue 1 - came out in May

(2) Volume 44, Issue 2 - we are proofreading the publication markup this week, and should be going to print in the next few weeks.

(3) Volume 44, Issue 3 - I have all the documents from the students and will begin edits next week. Predict will go to Christensen for publication mockup in mid-early September.

Volume 45

- Student Editorial Staff -

- I insisted on participating in interviews this year and selection process. Also, structure for staff is modified from prior years to not have separate lead articles and student notes editors but instead have THREE articles and notes editors (ANEs). This is one more staff than in prior years and expected to help with spreading workload more fairly, as there can be big disparity between articles' length and complexity of cite checking.

- Students have rewritten their student manual and editing guidelines with my input. This includes more details on accountability and consequences for failure to do timely work.

- UT Law School Faculty Sponsor

- The Journal now has one: Prof. David Adelman. Other journals have had these historically, but was never required by Law School for our journal because of Bar affiliation. He is committed to helping improve student accountability.

- Lead Articles - Still need one article each for Issue 2 & 3. We have one article in for Issue 1 and another should be coming in soon.

After hearing Lyn's report (read by Jean Flores), the group suggested that there be potential consequences for students. In addition to more support from UT administration, there was a question about whether students could get course credit that would be graded.

2. ***Essentials of Texas Water Resources Third Edition Book –***

**Susan**

**Maxwell**

Moving toward a digital copy of the third edition. Susan Maxwell sent an e-mail (see attached, incorporated herein) re marketing opportunities for the book. See June minutes for more information. Asked for suggestions for additional marketing opportunities for the book from the executive board. Susan suggested that we review program invitations for appropriateness (and for chapter authors that could be tapped for assistance).

A. ***Pro Bono Committee – Mary Koks (no report)***

B. ***Education Committee – David Klein***

1. **“Changing Face of Water Rights” Conference**

**Report** - Planned for February 26- 27, 2015. At the Hyatt Hill Country, and we will have a dinner one night during this conference for one of our quarterly meetings. Two co-chairs (Tom Bohl (new) and Denise Cheney (returning) - organizing a planning meeting for September 4.

2. **Texas Environmental Superconference -**

Superconference is at capacity (519, waiting list of 15 or 20 people). Good attendance rate for the ethics course. Mary Mendoza will establish an exploratory committee for JW Marriott potential transition. Rebecca Skiba, Andy Tarrant, and David Klein volunteered to assist.

NOTE: Cindy Bishop: Oil and Gas Disputes seminar - two-day in Houston in 2015. Connie is on the planning committee Several sections sponsoring, all section members get a discount. Traditionally in January, but working on this one.

**Interaction with ABA –Walt Shelton**

**Nominations Committee Report – Mike Nasi**

A. Approval of Slate of Officers/EC Members to be voted on at Annual Meeting: Slate to propose: New Treasurer: Steve McMillen, New Executive Board Members: Gindi Vincent (Exxon Mobil), Marshall Coover (Commissioner), Lisa Hodges (Valero). Nominations committee has approved this slate. All executive committee members voted in favor. Rebecca Skiba moved with a second from David to re-appoint Lyn Clancy to be the Editor of our Journal. All approved.

B. Appreciation of outgoing EC Members: Andy Tarrant, Steve McMillan, James Griffin

Next Meeting: Dallas Bar Association Environmental Section meeting: October 23, 2014 at the Belo Mansion in Dallas. Meeting from 10 am - noon followed by lunch with the Dallas Bar.

Adjourn at 4:20 (motion to adjourn: Jean Flores, Second: Bayne Phillippi, all in favor)