



ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES LAW SECTION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, October 22, 2015; 10 a.m.-12 noon

The Belo Mansion

2101 Ross Avenue

Dallas, Texas

ENRLS MINUTES

I. Welcome and Introductions

Present: Allison Exall, Susan Maxwell, Jean Flores, Jonathan Bull

Via Phone: Arnoldo Medina, Steve McMillen, Craig Pritzlaff, Ed Quinones, Lisa Hodges, Nathan Block, Angela Moorman, Walt Shelton

Absent: Rebecca Skiba, David Klein, Marshall Coover, Peter Wahl, Mary Koks, Connie Westfall, Lyn Clancy

II. Minutes (August 5 and August 7, 2015 Meetings)

Craig Pritzlaff moved to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on August 5, 2015 in Austin. Arnoldo Medina seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Craig moved to approve the minutes of the annual ENRLS section meeting held on August 7, 2015 in Austin. Walt Shelton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

III. Treasurer's Report

Steve McMillen provided an oral updated Treasurer's Report, including reference to David Klein's updated information from the 2015 Superconference, and reporting that the Section's general financial condition is good. Steve noted that he is working with Sandra at the State Bar to make some revisions to streamline the Section's balance sheet, including regarding various distinct sources of revenue and identifying Superconference expenses budgeted for facilities as distinct from materials and planning. Steve will revise the 2015-2016 budget to reflect the additional agency internship position (TWDB), discussed below. The Committee may address at its next meeting the possible cancellation of the CLE option to members, for viewing online judicial interviews. There was discussion of the need to address issues relating to the Section's website, including the budget, vendor relationship, and function issues. Allison

Exall formed a subcommittee to address and develop a proposal regarding website issues, comprised of Allison, Steve, Arnoldo, Connie Westfall, and Jonathan Bull.

IV. Committee Reports and Discussion Items

A. Law School Committee

1. Law School Visits.

Walt Shelton reported on the committee's plans for the following recent and upcoming programs:

- St. Mary's (Sept. 30th), a program panel of six speakers, followed by a reception.
- Houston area (UH and TSU), a panel program that was planned for Feb. 3, 2016 to be rescheduled.
- Texas Tech (spring 2016), a return program at Tech, since the last one several years ago.
- Texas A&M, SMU, and UT – programs being planned for spring 2016.

Allison encouraged all Executive Committee members to assist Walt in the planning and participation in the local law school programs, whenever possible, as these are a significant part of the Section's outreach and programming.

2. Internship and Scholarship Programs.

Following on a prior discussion of the Executive Committee, Walt moved for the approval of adding an additional (seventh) annual agency internship position for 2016, at the Office of General Counsel of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). This will require budgeting an additional \$4,000 in the internships budget, for a total of \$28,000. Nathan Block seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

B. Technology & Website Committee

No separate report. See notes above regarding subcommittee formed to address website issues.

C. Publications Committee

1. Texas Environmental Law Journal

Lyn Clancy's email report was reviewed, regarding the status of student involvement and the various articles and issues for the current volume. Jean Flores raised the need to clarify and streamline the process for sending e-blasts to Section membership and e-posting of each new TELJ issue on the website, so that these are publicized and accessible as timely as possible. Allison noted that Lyn should be empowered to authorize the posting of each issue upon completion, and will followup on these changes.

2. *Essentials of Texas Water Resources*

Susan Maxwell reported that the fourth edition of the book is being prepared for publication and is estimated to be available in February 2016. Based on her followup conversation with Texas BarBooks staff, they will return to the prior approach (2nd edition) of providing a digital version along with each purchase of the 4th edition of the book. This feature should enhance the marketing and sales of the new edition.

D. Pro Bono Committee

No report.

E. Education Committee

1. Texas Environmental Superconference. The 28th annual Superconference will take place in August 2016, at the Four Seasons in Austin. Executive Committee members discussed the general status of planning, including the Committee's role in relation to the Superconference planning committee, and the process for budgeting for the Superconference. These issues will be revisited at the next Executive Committee meeting.

V. Other Business

1. Jean suggested that the Section consider moving the date of its fall quarterly meeting, as the October meeting is typically less well attended and there results a long gap until the February meeting. Susan suggested that the Section consider holding its fall quarterly meeting at a location and on a date synched with one of the law school programs, in order to facilitate more direct connection of Executive Committee members and this programming. These proposals may be revisited at the next meeting.

VI. Next Meeting

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on February 25, 2016, at the Hill Country Hyatt in San Antonio, in conjunction with the Section-sponsored Changing Face of Water Rights conference. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously approved.