



## FRIENDS OF BRAZORIA WILDLIFE REFUGES

### Minutes of the Board Meeting

Friday, January 12, 2024 Venue: Gulf Coast Bird Observatory

**DRAFT, 1st version**

**Members in Attendance:** Oron Atkins, Ed Barrios, Mickey Dufilho, Phil Huxford, Herb Myers, Dick Schaffhausen, Mary Schwartz, Cris Tobola, Regina Tippett

**Members Absent:** Marty Cornell, Ruby Lewis

**Refuge Staff in Attendance:** Bryan Winton

**General Members/Guests in Attendance:** Mike Lange

Mary Schwartz called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

The proposed **agenda** was accepted.

The **minutes** of the November 20, 2023 meeting of the board were unanimously approved after a motion by Dick and a second by Phil.

Officers were presented-

President: Mary Schwartz

Vice President: Ed Barrios

Secretary: Marty Cornell

Treasurer: Regina Tippett

Officers were unanimously approved after a motion by Herb and a second by Oron.

The proposed meeting dates will be the 3rd Friday of every odd month beginning at 12:00. Motion was made by Ed and seconded by Phil. Motion passed unanimously. Meetings will be March 15, May 17, July 18, Sept. 20, Nov 21, and Jan. 17

Interim Motions – none

Grant Application Update – no report

Land Acquisition Update – no report, see minutes from General Membership Meeting.

Refuge Report – Bryan Winton passed out Oil and Gas Tract Books. Phil and Ed will include animal and plant surveys in the book. No additional report, see minutes from General Membership Meeting

Financial Report – no further report, see minutes from General Membership Meeting

Web and Social-Media – no report See action register

Maintenance Committee – No activity

Projects – Oron – no active project on refuge

Birds of Prey – Phil not additional report

Membership – Mickey reported 42 Life members and 10 paid memberships for 2024.

Outreach – no report

Event – Phil refuge walk update Feb 15<sup>th</sup>: Cannon Bend Unit of the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge

The board reviewed the Action Register

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Submitted by Mickey Dufilho, Acting Secretary

<b>Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuge Board Action Register November 17, 2023</b>				
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Who? Date Started</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Develop text on FOBWR history for website	Ed Barrios	TBD	Fixin to	Ed has gathered old newsletters and will use this as the basis for this history
Develop a Succession Plan	Mickey	<b>TBD</b>	Researched succession planning; no further action	The NWRA will hold a webinar on this subject on September 20, 2023 1/24 Nothing Done
Refresh the Discovery Center Display	Phil Marty, Cris	not specified	Ongoing	The work to date (Oct23) has been paid for. Looking to add coyote and perhaps another specimen. 1/24 Phil reported on what Taxidermist

suggested for insect control

Master Contact Spreadsheet	Ed	Before MC24	Construct a searchable file of FOBWR contacts, e.g., corporate sponsors and donors, sponsors and participants for MC, BoP, ATFN, members, volunteers, outreach. Marty and Lisa have given lists to Ed. Ed is in the process of combining all contact lists.
Design concept for B. Burkhart memorial And Neal	Ed and Phil	\$840 in donations have been received.	Ideas considered and rejected include a memorial entrance arch for the BWT pollinator garden, a granite bench with an etched design, a concrete bench with bench with imbedded tiles, and a stained glass hanging Need a proposal to cover all deceased volunteers. Phil needs to look at site on BNWR, draw up a design. 1/24 No progress
Correct the Brazosport Chamber of Commerce information about trails on the refuges.	Ed	By April 2024	Made initial contact and update
Create informational PowerPoint presentation on refuges & FOBWR to present to community organizations/groups	Mary	Summer of 2024	Mary will develop a new 15-min PPT with segments of drone footage.

Develop a budget for MC24	MC Planning Committee	Fall 2023	Include plan to increase corporate donations. <b>First meeting in December. Barbara Wailey vol to get volunteers. 1/24 Draft Sent out</b>
Investigate using our webpage to serve as an archive	Dick and Cris Tobola	Report at Nov. 10, 2023 board meeting	The latest thinking is to archive the materials on our website. No need to restrict accessibility. <b>1/24 Still looking into it</b>
Determine if now is a good time to stock Cannan Bend with bait fish.	Bryan, Curtis	As soon as convenient	Idea is to stock bass in the spring. <b>1/24 – will be done this year Can mark it complete</b>
Check viability of a “safe mothball” to preserve the display in the Discovery Center	Cris	Report at Nov. 2023 board meeting.	No progress <b>1/24 Close this out. Phil will check with the taxidermist</b>
Check out the cost of a UV film to prevent sunlight degradation of the DC display	Marty	Report at Nov. 2023 board meeting	Film would be preferable to blinds <b>Marty to pursue</b>
Determine if FOBWR should pursue a grant for engineering Salt Lake breakwater	Brian and Bryar	On or before Jan23 board meeting	Instigated by rejection of our grant application to Galveston Bay Foundation. <b>1/24 Need to apply for other grants for engineering</b>
Add flora & fauna data to the report that maps oil/gas location on complex lands	Ed and Phil	Not specified	Bryan would like spiral-bound copies of the amended report. <b>1/24 Phil gave a few mucker surveys to Bryan</b>

Recover out-of-service UTVs donated from the Complex to FOBWR

Phil

Not specified

The Complex must dispose of these vehicles; donating them would be the most expedient method.

1/24 Close this out. It cannot be done by Phil

Determine the desire of school districts west of the Brazos for DEEP, and limits to do this

Phil

Not specified

Stimulated by desire of P66, CPChem for fund more programs  
1/24 – Phil will give names of school contacts to Ed to follow-up– Van Vleck, etc.

Look into Google Workspace as a fundraising tool

Cris

Not specified

1/24 – Cris has not figured this out

Redo web page for targeted donation

Cris and Dick

Not specified

1/24 Working on it

Update membership application forms

Mickey

Not specified

1/24 Cris will work on it

Look at iDrive for ??????

Dick