



FOB Meeting Minutes

Meeting

Title	Friends of Balcones National Wildlife Refuge Board of Directors Meeting		
Purpose	Bi-Monthly Board Meeting		
Date	September 20, 2017	Time / Duration	5:30pm – 7:36pm
Facilitator	Jane Brunclik	Recorder	David Brady
Location	Balcones National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters		

Attendee List

Board Members	Refuge Staff
Jane Brunclik (President)	Jennifer Brown (Environmental Education Specialist)
Pat Wilkinson (Treasurer)	
Shelby Baetz	
Evelyn Nugent	
Lynette Holtz	
Wayne Collins	
David Brady (Secretary) - via conference call	
Dub Lyon	
Ruth Lyon	

Agenda

#	Topic	Responsible
1	July Meeting Minutes	Jane Brunclik
2	Treasurer's Report	Pat Wilkinson
3	Refuge Report	Jennifer Brown
4	Board Handbook	Shelby Baetz
5	Old Business	Jane Brunclik
6	New Business	Jane Brunclik



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Minutes

Topic 1	July Meeting Minutes								
	Pat noted that minutes need to clarify that a motion has cleared the board. Pat clarified that she (treasurer) is facilitator of the treasurer's report. Jane clarified spelling of her last name.								
Topic 2	Treasurer's Report								
	FOB Budget Checking: \$253,560.20 Money Market: \$126,132.31								
Topic 3	Refuge Report								
	<p>1. Refuge biologists will be conducting nocturnal spotlight surveys to estimate whitetail deer populations on the refuge in preparation for the annual hunt. The annual hunt dates on the refuge are:</p> <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Youth Hunt</td> <td>November 10-12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Hunt 1</td> <td>November 17-19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Hunt 2</td> <td>December 1-3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Hunt 3</td> <td>December 8-10</td> </tr> </table> <p>2. Rob Vernachio has taken a position with the National Park Service. The refuge will be filling positions in its wildland fire module and is currently hiring 6 seasonal fire positions.</p> <p>3. The refuge received \$250,000 to conduct prescribed burns at Fort Hood.</p> <p>4. The refuge received a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for \$250,000 to conduct prescribed burns on private lands for monarch habitat. This will be done with the Partners program from the Austin Ecological Services Office.</p> <p>4. Cow Creek watershed has been selected for assistance and is being considered for an RTCA grant from the National Park Service.</p> <p>5. The FOB partnered with the refuge in applying for a NFWF grant for \$25,000 to create gardens at Candlelight Ranch in the city of Jonestown.</p> <p>6. Refuge Roundup. The event will be held on 10/14/17 from 11am-3:00pm. There are 24 activities planned in partnership with a variety of Central Texas</p>	Youth Hunt	November 10-12	General Hunt 1	November 17-19	General Hunt 2	December 1-3	General Hunt 3	December 8-10
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	<p>organizations. The FOB previously approved \$650 in funds to provide a live raptor program at the event. The FOB will supply hot dogs and table at the event.</p> <p>Jennifer has organized fliers and press releases for the news, TV, social media, and radio in the Central Texas area. Jennifer is expecting 200 attendees.</p>
<p>Topic 4</p>	<p>Board Handbook</p>
	<p>In it's second round of revisions of the board operating handbook, the board stated the goal of making the operating handbook (as written by Shelby Baetz) more concise. The board agreed that the operating handbook should be a concise tool and that the bylaws act as the detailed reference.</p> <p>Noteworthy revisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members show a 'willingness' to volunteer at the refuge - Members cannot miss 2 or more of the 6 board meetings without due cause - Lobbying: can do some lobbying, though substantial lobbying can lead to a loss of 501c3 status. Better to do public policy advocacy. - FOB audits: board is considering periodic audits - Vice president: Accepting the role of president implies an interest in becoming president and being capable of assuming the role of president at any time. <p>Shelby will make revisions and bring the third draft to the next board meeting.</p>
<p>Topic 5</p>	<p>Old Business</p>
	<p>Doeskin Shelter</p> <p>No update on grant. Wayne visited the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute and inspected their pavilion. Their pavilion was a 25'x30' metal structure on a concrete slab. In addition, they had a trough fed by a solar pump to supply water for wildlife and a bird blind. Jane mentioned that the Master Naturalists have constructed bird blinds at Inks Lake and that they could be a potential resource</p> <p>Annual Friends Meeting & Volunteer Awards</p> <p>The meeting will be held at 10/22/17 at Flying X. Brunch fajitas will be served. There will be a hike before or after the awards. Recognition and awards will be given to FOB members and their hours of service to the group, not to the refuge – not all FOB hours can be reported as refuge hours.</p>



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Topic 6	New Business
	<p>.2 acre Land Donation A gentleman proposed donating his 0.2acre lot to the refuge on 1/1/18. The lot was not contiguous with any refuge properties or easements. The board discussed that it wasn't fitting with the mission of the FOB to accept the donation (due to its size and its physical separation from the refuge). The board recommended he consider donating his property to the Turnback Canyon Trail Conservancy. The board voted: 0 for; 9 against. The measure did not clear.</p> <p>Landherr Tract The Landherr tract is a 97.25 acre tract adjacent to the simons, russel and baird tracts of the refuge. The owner is considering a conservation land easement or direct donation. The refuge is unable to afford the \$1800 land survey. Lynette made a motion to pay the \$1800 for the landherr tract. Shelby seconded the motion. The motion cleared.</p>
Topic 7	Annual Meeting
	Annual meeting set for October 22, 2017

Meeting Adjourned - 7:36pm

Future BOD Meeting Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Facilitator / Recorder
11/15/2017	5:30	BCNWR Headquarters	Jane Brunclik / David Brady