

**North Texas Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program Board Meeting
Monday, August 25, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
Via Zoom**

Board Members Present

Kenneth Saintonge - State Rep.	Susan Sattell - Vice President
Alan Lusk - Co-Treasurer	Ashley Steel - Community Ed. Director
Shelby Smith – Youth Development Dir.	Sam Kieschnick – TPWD Advisor
Cale Chapman – Secretary	Ginger Greatens - DE&I Director
Kelly Martin - Membership Director	Tim Gibson - Communications Dir.
Matthew Orwatt – AgriLife Advisor	Charlie Marshall - Training Class Dir.
Malette Reed – Co-Treasurer	Sam Kieschnick – TPWD Advisor

Board Members Absent

Bruce Stewart - Immediate Past President	Rebecca Posten - President
Carrie Robinson – Volunteer Projects Dir.	Erin Mollet – Co-Training Class Dir.
Bruce Stewart - Immediate Past President	Chris Torres – Training Class Rep.

Guests Present: None.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Vice President Susan Sattell. A quorum was present.

Approval of June 2, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes*

Minutes of the June 2, 2025 Board Meeting, which were distributed to the Board in advance of the meeting were approved.

Acknowledgement and Referral for Audit of the January 1, 2025 – July 31, 2025 Financial Books*

The Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity Detail for the period January 1, 2024 – July 31, 2025, which were made available to the Board in advance of the meeting, were approved.

Noting COH critical dates:

Kelly putting together a milestone update for the board next month.

Consent Agenda*

A motion was made and seconded to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

The board addressed the issue of encountering negative comments on NTMN social media pages. The board discussed remedies which included the possibility of forming a subcommittee for the purpose of reviewing chapter rules for social media.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES AND ACTIONS

Secretary: Cale Chapman

None.

Co-Treasurers: Alan Lusk and Malette Reed

The co-treasurers will meet on Wednesday to discuss the budgeting process. The board discussed a particular volunteer who works for T Mobile which has a program with Benevity and partners with employers and nonprofit organizations to donate money per hour volunteered by employees. NTMN is lacking an ID number in their system. Benevity did donate money in 2019 to NTMN, but no one took steps necessary to get the chapter fully registered. Malette drafted a letter of authorization and left it in Dropbox. Some records are required to be submitted with letter for this. This may only benefit the Tenison Park project, but once in the system the chapter will be able to call for members to check with their employers to see if they participate in this program with Benevity.

Volunteer Projects Director: Carrie Robinson

Absent.

Membership Director: Kelly Martin

Two members transferred to NTMN this summer from other chapters.

Training Class Directors: Charlie Marshall and Erin Mollet

Erin is on vacation. The proposed 2026 class budget is in Dropbox. The budget calls for a couple increases in funding. The board discussed lingering points of confusion within the budget. It is expected that 60 students will be accepted next year. The board did not propose a vote for the budget.

Alan made a motion to fund the training class in 2026 for \$200. The motion passed.

Communications Director: Tim Gibson

The DragonFlyer newsletter team requested that they create copies of the newsletter for outreach purposes. A quote of \$418 was received for double sided copies at 22 pages each.

Malette motioned for approval for \$600 to be spent on printing hard copies of the newsletter for outreach purposes. The motion passed.

Youth Development Director: Shelby Smith

No update. Shelby reported success with the Young Naturalists program at Hawthorne Elementary School.

Community Education Director: Ashley Steel

No update. People have been responsive to Nature Ambassadors and generous with their time and contribution. The framework for putting presentations together is largely complete.

DE&I Director: Ginger Greatens

Ginger extended an invitation to board members to attend DE&I meetings. Some committee members are interested in increasing social media.

State Representative: Kenneth Saintonge

Ken has been in communication with neighboring chapters for collaboration with the World Cup and general collaboration. The Elm Fork chapter is particularly interested in collaborating. Mary Pearl gave the chapter her blessing for World Cup involvement.

Past President: Bruce Stewart

Absent.

Training Class Representative: Chris Torres

Absent.

Vice President: Susan Sattell

New Programs Committee Director Gretchen Pollom started learning about her post in August and should be fully on board by October 1. In order to inform deliberation at the upcoming Programs planning meeting in September to determine 2026 speakers, Rebecca Posten developed and sent a survey to NTMN members for feedback on preferences. Dates for chapter meetings, the February Awards Dinner and the July Summer Social have been reviewed with board members and set for 2026. Dallas College will not accept room requests until November 1; requests are first come-first serve, so the request will be made the morning of November 1. Thanks to Matt Orwatt for securing AgLife's Water Building for NTMN's 2026 events; in order to provide an opportunity to get an hour of AT while allowing for socializing, the building is available until 9 pm (The schedule: dinner and presentations 5:30-7:00 pm; socializing from 7-8 pm; and 8-9 pm clean up.)

President: Rebecca Posten

Rebecca was absent.

ADVISORS INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

- a. Texas Parks and Wildlife: Sam Kieschnick – Sam shared gratitude. Sam reported that there would not be an urban wildlife workshop for NTMN chapter in 2025 as another chapter was hosting this in 2025, but it would return to NTMN in 2026.
- b. Texas AgriLife Extension: Matthew Orwat – The board discussed rights related to photography and volunteers as well as potential paths to resolution related to conflict between one project member and a stakeholder at CLM (Constellation Living Memorials). There may be a need to delineate roles between the two organizations. Matt reported that he was investigating to see if there was space at the Dallas County Agri-Life office to store the herbarium collection since Texas Discovery Gardens was indicating that NTMN might have to move the collection from TDG.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, it was **moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:01 pm. The motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cale Chapman
Secretary