

## In this issue:

President's Forum	1
Spring 2021 Agenda	3
Officer's Reports	4
Committee Reports	8
Proposed Curation Ethics Statement	12
Proposed Curation Standards and Guidelines	12
Preamble	12
Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation	13
Partnership update	14
Proposed 2022 Budget	14
Update: TBH 2021?	15
Minutes (Fall 2020)	16
Officers and Committee Chairs	25

2021 CTA Spring Meeting  
April 9, 2021  
9:00 am

The CTA will be hosting the meeting virtually on Zoom - additional instructions and a link to the meeting will be distributed to current members via email.

Only members will be able to participate in the meeting so please renew your membership on the CTA website, if you have not done so already.



## President's Forum

I hope everyone is doing well, staying healthy, and recovering from February's snowmageddon. It was just another "once in a lifetime" event that has hit us in the past year. It was just about a year ago that the CTA leadership decided to move our 2020 spring meeting to a virtual event and since then we all have become more accustomed to virtual meetings and presentations than I think we ever thought possible. The virtual environment has made meeting and presentations more accessible, and I know for our own organization the virtual environment has allowed members who normally cannot travel to the meeting or may be in the field the opportunity to attend. Once we move back to face-to-face meetings, we will look to continue to broadcast our meetings in a virtual environment for those unable to attend in person.

Our upcoming spring meeting on April 9, 2021 will again be virtual. The morning will be filled with the usual committee and agency updates and should be a full morning of events. We will take a lunch break and I hope everyone returns for presentations by Student Research Grant awardee, Ashley Eyeington, and Karissa Basse and Mikayla Mathews from Pape-Dawson Engineers. If you are interested in presenting recent research, please let me know and I will get you on the agenda.



Speaking of meetings, our fall meeting is usually held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Texas Archeological Society (TAS), which is slated for Houston this year. The TAS meeting plans are not set in stone, but as of now they are planning a hybrid type meeting with mostly in-person events and some virtual events. At this time, we will plan to hold our fall meeting in person where the TAS will be held (currently they are planning for the Houston Museum of Natural Science) and hold the fall social at the same venue or another location, if necessary. We will monitor the situation as it evolves over the summer and will keep everyone updated.

The struggles of COVID this past year did not slow down cultural resources management projects in Texas and we all have been busy, including many of our committees. The Standards Committee will give a status report on progress to update the reporting standards and minor updates to the survey standards. The Curation Committee will bring up for vote to add a curation related guideline to our ethics statement and insert a preamble to the Curation Standards and Guideline document. See the committee's update in the newsletter for more information. The Membership and Contractor's List committees are both looking at the role of these committees in our by-laws and the function they serve in today's organization. They will give an update on thoughts at the meeting. The Government Affairs committee will have a busy spring with a new presidential administration and congress as well as the Texas State Legislature in session. Our committee will update us on where things stand at the meeting, but I want to remind everyone that it is incumbent on us all to keep an eye on what our officials are doing at the state and federal level. The Budget Committee will present a budget for 2022 for the membership to approve. The 2022 budget will mirror our planned 2021 budget and we may end 2022 with a negative balance. I am not worried about this as we did not spend our budget in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic and have a healthy balance in the bank. We will, however, need to make sure that this does not become a trend and look at our expenditures in the coming years. CTA treasurer, Thomas Barrett, will also give us an update

on how our investments have fared since we placed monies in funds with Clear Rock Advisors.

Throughout the past year, our organization has come to acknowledge the need for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion in Texas archeology. I have spoken to several members about different ways, such as internships and scholarships, to increase training and employment opportunities for students and early career researchers from historically underrepresented groups. Within the CTA, the Multicultural Committee, led by Mary Jo Galindo, is developing the framework for field school scholarships aimed at supporting students from historically underrepresented groups. The committee has made great progress and we will likely kick off a fundraising effort for this scholarship in mid-2021. To build upon this, CTA Past President Jon Lohse and I have been seeking a firm or group that can provide diversity, equity, and inclusion training to the CTA membership. We believe that this training will make us all better citizens and help advance our efforts to make Texas archeology a leader in diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The only position up for election this year is the Vice President. Erin Phillips has agreed to serve again, and we will vote at the spring meeting. If you are interested in being on a committee or serving the CTA in other ways, please let me know and we will see where you can best serve our organization.

In closing, my first year as CTA president has been rewarding and challenging as we navigate through a pandemic, a new presidential administration and upcoming legislative session, and the call for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion in archeology. Our committee volunteers continue putting in the time and effort to improving our standards, awards, and charting the path for the future. I want to thank everyone who volunteers and supports the CTA for all their efforts. You make our group strong and relevant. I have faith that the CTA will continue to be a leader in the state and across the country.

Todd Ahlman

---

## Spring 2021 Meeting Agenda

Registration - 8:30 am

Call to Order - 9:00 am

Approval of Minutes, Fall 2020 Meeting

### Officers' Reports

President (Todd Ahlman)  
 Vice President (Erin Phillips)  
 Past President (Jon Lohse)  
 Secretary (Scotty Moore)  
 Treasurer (Thomas Barrett)  
 Newsletter Editor (Tina Nielsen)

### Agency Reports

Texas Historical Commission  
 Texas Parks and Wildlife  
 Texas Department of Transportation  
 Texas Archeological Research Laboratory  
 Center for Archaeological Studies  
 Center for Archaeological Research

### Standing Committee Reports

Auditing (Mark Denton)  
 Budget Committee (Thomas Barrett)  
 CTA Communications (Catherine Jalbert)  
 Contractors (Catherine Jalbert)  
 Curation (Marybeth Tomka)  
 Governmental Affairs (Nesta Anderson and Duane Peter)  
 Membership (Katie Canavan)  
 Multicultural Relations (Mary Jo Galindo)  
 Nominating (Bill Martin)  
 Public Education (Todd Ahlman)  
 Standards and Guidelines Committee (Jodi Jacobson)

### Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation Partnership (Eric Schroeder)  
 Lost Cemeteries Task Force (Andi Burden)  
 Curation Ethics (Marybeth Tomka)  
 CTA Financial Investment Search Committee (Eric Schroeder)

### Old Business

Curation Ethics Presentation, vote on Ethics Statement addition, and vote on preamble to be included in the Standards and Guidelines for Curation document  
 CTA's Investment in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

### New Business

Fall 2021 meeting  
 New business from the floor? (5 minutes)

Meeting Adjourns - 12:00 pm

## Afternoon Presentations - 1:30 pm

**Geoarchaeological Approach to Resolving the Origins of Bison Bone Beds at Bonfire Shelter, 41VV218, Val Verde County, Texas**

**Presenter:** Student Research Grant awardee, Ashley Eyeington (Texas State University, SWCA)

**Abstract:** Bonfire Shelter is a large prehistoric rockshelter site situated at the northern end of Mile Canyon in southwest Texas. Early investigators determined the site to be the location of multiple bison jump events; however subsequent investigations have disputed this interpretation. My research focuses on answering the questions of whether the Paleoindian bone bed represents a bison jump event and if so, does it represent one or multiple events. Geoarchaeological methods including particle size analysis, magnetic susceptibility, and loss-on-ignition are providing insights into the formation processes of the site and as a result, insights into the origin and number of events represented within the Paleoindian bison bone bed. To date, research of this type has not been conducted to analyze the Paleoindian bone bed at Bonfire Shelter.

**3D Modeling of the Edward Burleson Burial Complex at the Texas State Cemetery**

**Presenters:** Karissa Basse, Ph.D., and Mikayla Mathews, M.A. (Pape-Dawson Engineers)

**Abstract:** A recent archaeological investigation by Pape-Dawson Engineers at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin uncovered a once forgotten memorial within the oldest portion of the cemetery. The headstone complex consisted of decorative limestone curbing and the original limestone foundation for the existing memorial to Edward Burleson (1798-1851), a prominent figure in Texas history and the first individual to be interred in what was to become the Texas State Cemetery. The headstone complex was documented using a DJI Phantom 4 Pro drone to create a 3D model for mapping and preservation. This work was conducted as part of a scraping effort to assess the existing burial capacity of the Texas State Cemetery and identify opportunities to provide increased capacity to extend the operational life of the cemetery. The project data will be utilized to assist in the creation of a comprehensive plan for future cemetery improvements and continued growth. During the presentation, Dr. Karissa Basse and Mikayla Mathews, MA, will discuss the Burleson burial complex and present the 3D model of the findings.

**Note:** *Agenda is subject to change prior to the Meeting*

---

## Past President's Report

Digital and remote working greetings from your Past President!

I think we're all glad to see 2020 in the rearview mirror, and so far 2021 seems off to a promising start, at least if you don't count the winterpocalypse and near-total failure of the state's power grid. Our Covid numbers seem to be looking up, and I know many of us will have considered or even gotten at least one vaccine shot by the time the meeting takes place. If we're all careful and remain cautious as we work through this, we may be able to meet again in person one day soon!

There isn't much to report as the Past President. Like last fall, I look for ways to try and support the President's initiatives. We are evaluating how our organization can become more actively involved in helping to drive social change in our field by increasing awareness of racial disparities and inequalities in terms of access to opportunities and day-to-day experiences in our workplace. This is a pretty tall hill to climb, but I believe it's an issue that's well worth working towards. Last fall I attended my final Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) meeting; Todd now represents the CTA.

Otherwise, I remain occasionally active in helping to support the Texas Freedom Colonies Project, directed by Dr. Andrea Roberts (TAMU). If you



haven't yet seen this remarkable project and its resulting Atlas of Freedom Colonies, settlements established by emancipated Blacks following the Civil War, please visit [www.thetexasfreedomcoloniesproject.com](http://www.thetexasfreedomcoloniesproject.com) This is a compelling, impactful long-term project that helps increase visibility and awareness of these important sites and historical (and contemporary) places that hold much meaning for local communities.

I look forward to our spring meeting and to the opportunity to perhaps see you all again in person. With luck and perseverance, I hope this might happen in time for our Fall meeting. Fingers crossed!

Jon Lohse

## Secretary's Report

Hello all,

I hope that everyone is doing well as spring begins and COVID-19 vaccinations continue to be rolled out. As of mid-March 2021, we have 176 registered members (that number will probably increase between this report and the actual Spring meeting) with 54 contractor listings, 50 principal investigators (PIs), 57 professional archeologists (PAs), 9 students, and 6 retirees.

A couple of interesting notes about the membership numbers: we are actually up a fraction from this time last year, which is wonderful given how we've been in a state of semi-hibernation due to COVID-19. The other note is that while the number of professional archeologists is down, the number of contractors/PIs has increased by almost the same number. A big driver of this flip-flop has been people changing their registration status from PA to PI; we really appreciate those people who pull state and/or federal permits registering as PIs, as it both generates more revenue for this organization and provides a more accurate representation of the membership.

One other item I wanted to mention: last year (right as the lockdowns struck), Bill Martin reached out to me about assembling a list of all CTA past presidents. That task got put on the back burner, but I am going to jump back into it this spring/summer. I would like to expand that to creating a database of all officers and committee members who have served over the years.



I know that this information exists as a disparate assemblage of roll rosters, newsletters, emails, and other documents (some of which are curated at TARL), but I would like to create a digital database that is both searchable and available for the membership to peruse. To that end, I could use some help. If you are, or have ever been, an officer and/or committee member, could you send me an email and let me know the position/committee and the years you served? Once I have information for active members, I'll start working on aggregating information on former members. I know that there is a lot of institutional knowledge out there, so if anyone has suggestions/recommendations for completing this task, please let me know.

Thanks and I hope to see you all in the Fall, if and when we are back to in-person gatherings (fingers crossed).

Thanks!  
Scotty

## Treasurer's Report

By: Thomas Barrett

First off, thank you for the opportunity to serve as Council Treasurer. Since November last year, I have been getting up to speed on the CTA budget with the continued service of the former budget committee of Leslie Bush, Katie Canavan, Erin Phillips, and Maggie Moore, as well as the supportive transition from Eric Schroeder.

Second, I am pleased to report that the finances of the Council of Texas Archeologists are solid. As of March 23, 2022, our current account balances are as follows:

\$25,821.76	- Operations fund
\$30,929.88	- Investment fund
\$9,131.93	- Student grant fund
<u>\$65,883.57</u>	- Total CTA funds

Since we have been in a pandemic lockdown for a year now, all in-person CTA social functions were cancelled - the 2020 Spring and Fall meetings, as well as the Spring 2021 gathering - therefore, those funds have remained unspent and can be carried forward. But also, the income from display tables at those meetings has likewise not accrued, and total actual membership over the last year failed to meet expected levels. On the other hand, membership at this point in the year is almost to the 2020 levels, and we are hopeful for an in-person Fall 2021 meeting, so there is reason for optimism.

Because of these conditions, and to proceed modestly out of the pandemic, I prepared an initial budget that largely mirrored the last two years of actual income and expenditures, with modest increases in expected membership over actual 2020 levels. This Proposed 2022 Budget (presented on page 14 of the newsletter) was



unanimously approved by the Executive Council on 3/23/21. With this budget, we are projecting an operating deficit of \$2,615.00 - however, as mentioned above, the cancellation of three social gatherings left a previous budget surplus of potentially \$9,500 (i.e., social event savings minus lost display table income), more than offset this deficit and the eventual resumption of 'normality' should return CTA finances to previously documented growth.

Finally, following the approved transfer of CTA Investment funds from the bank money market account (where last year CTA gained \$3.33 in investment income) to Clear Rock Advisors, LLC we have a reasonable expectation of 3-5% per annum; or, \$900-\$1500/year. I have initiated that transfer and will report on its completion and progress in subsequent reports and updates to the Budget Committee and Executive Councils.

In closing, I look forward to working with the Council and its members to secure our organization's financial future and our shared appreciation of Texas' past.

## Newsletter Editor's Report

Hi Everyone-

First off, apologies for the tardiness of the newsletter. There was some last minute back and forth on the proposed 2022 Budget, so I opted to hold the newsletter rather than to post the budget separately on the website. Per our Bylaws, the newsletter must be posted 15 days prior to the meetings if a Bylaw change is being voted on, but luckily this is not the case for our upcoming Spring meeting (whew). Moving forward, I am going to try and post the newsletters a month prior to the meetings; this additional buffer will allow for last minute edits to important items that need to be included. Expect a first call for submissions for the Fall 2021 newsletter in late July/early August; the **due date for Fall 2021 submissions will be September 10, 2021.**

Included in this issue are a few items that will be up for vote at the meeting:

The Spring 2022 Budget can be found on page 14 of the newsletter and a summary is included in Tom's Treasurer report on page 6. I have left yellow and orange highlights in the budget spreadsheet; these are areas Tom mentions in his report.

In addition, the Curation Committee and Ad Hoc Curation Ethics Statement Committee have developed an ethics statement regarding curation as well as a curation ethics preamble to include in the Standards and Guidelines for Curation document approved last Spring; both are included on page 12 in the newsletter. During Old Business and prior to the vote, the curation committee will give a short presentation titled "Considering Curation as a Professional & Ethical Responsibility".



Looking forward to seeing you all in two weeks and I am hoping in-person activities will become a reality soon!

Cheers,  
Tina

## Standards and Guidelines Committee Report

By: Jodi Jacobson

The CTA Standards and Guidelines Committee has been busy since the Fall meeting, especially with ad hoc committee work. The Reporting Guidelines committee, led by Amy Borgens, has been busy drafting revisions and additions from input they received at the last two meetings and from the main Standards and Guidelines Committee members. We plan to present some updates and request additional input at the Spring Meeting. Our hope is to have the Reporting Guidelines ready for publication in the CTA Newsletter for review prior to the Fall 2021 meeting.

The more in-depth Best Practices document for the Investigation and when needed Exhumation of Cemetery and Graves ad hoc committee, led by Robin Barnes, was fully formed following the Fall 2020 CTA meeting and they have been actively working on a first draft document that will be reviewed by the CTA Standards and Guidelines Committee prior to the Spring 2021 meeting. As this will be a first review, we expect minimal updates on progress of this Best Practice document at the Spring meeting.

On old business fronts, the Standards for Identification of Cemeteries and Unmarked Graves, conditionally approved by CTA in April 2020, was revised per comments received at that meeting and submitted to the THC for their review just prior to the Fall 2020 CTA meeting. THC revisions are expected to be returned to the CTA Standards and Guidelines Committee prior to the Spring Meeting; however, the revised Guidelines will not be ready for a vote at the Spring meeting. The Committee will need to review THC comments and another round of edits/revisions is anticipated before it will be ready for CTA member review and vote. We anticipate having the approved guidelines ready for CTA-at-large presentation and vote at the Fall 2021 Meeting.



# Communications Committee Report

Dear Members,

Happy Spring! My report for this newsletter consists of some updates and friendly reminders as well as some information about my position with the CTA (spoiler alert: I will be stepping down for the fall meeting and I am hoping that one of you wonderful readers/members will be interested in becoming Chair).

Members Only Page: The members only page has a new look! To streamline the page, all past recordings and materials are now available under links for the corresponding year (see below). Past newsletters are still available under the tab "[About CTA](#)". Stay tuned to this page for updates and any materials that require member review before meetings. When we are able to meet in person again, this is also the area where you will register for events.

Wondering how you can access the members only page? When you log into the CTA website, you will automatically be redirected to the members only page. If you navigate away from it to other parts of the CTA website, you can access the page under the Members Only tab. This tab will remain visible as long as you are logged into the website.

Contractors List: With the automation of the CTA Contractors List, members have more control over their listings and can make updates as needed through their membership profiles. As a reminder, the membership dues for the Contractors Listing are a bundled fee of the PI membership (\$45) and the Contractors Listing (\$150). If your membership is current and you find that you need to change your membership level from a different category (e.g., Professional Archeologist, Principal Investigator, etc.) to the Contractors Listing, please contact the CTA secretary, Scotty Moore ([scottym@coxmcclain.com](mailto:scottym@coxmcclain.com)) to help you make the switch.

**Welcome, Members!**

This section will be updated periodically with member announcements and any materials that requires review by the membership prior to the spring and fall meetings. Members can also find materials and recordings from past years below.

Announcements:

The CTA Spring Meeting will be held virtually on **April 9th**, starting 9am. Zoom information is forthcoming and will be sent to all members via email.

Materials for Review:

Previous Meeting Materials and Recordings:


2020

2019


2018

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

No upcoming events



Council of Texas Archeologists



Council of Texas Archeologists

**Discussion Forum:** I would like to remind members that the old Yahoos Group has been replaced by the Discussion Forum under the Members Only tab on the CTA website (<https://counciloftexasarcheologists.org/Discussion-Forum>). All members can post to the forum and those who are subscribed will receive an email when a new post/topic has been added. SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS FORUM IS NOT AUTOMATIC WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP and individual members have to subscribe themselves. I encourage all members to consider doing so for important updates, information, and news from our member community.

To subscribe to the Discussion Forum, log into the CTA website and access the [Discussion Forum](#) under the Members Only tab. Once there, click Subscribe to forum (as pictured below).

My final newsletter update concerns the upcoming SAA annual meeting. As co-chair of the SAA's Meeting Safety Committee, I encourage all CTA members who are attending the SAA meeting to consider registering for the committee-member-led workshop "Power, Responsibility, & Accountability". Registration is \$5 and all proceeds will be donated to Futures Without Violence (<https://futureswithoutviolence.org/>) who assisted the Meeting Safety Committee in creating the curriculum for this workshop. As an added benefit, this workshop is eligible for Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit through the Register of Professional Archaeologists.

For more information, please see the abstract at the bottom of this report and register today at ([www.saa.org/meeting](http://www.saa.org/meeting)).



**Committee Update:** I feel the time has come for me to step aside and welcome someone new as Chair of the Communications Committee. Interested? Please contact Todd Ahlman ([toddahlman@txstate.edu](mailto:toddahlman@txstate.edu)). Interested but have questions before committing? Feel free to reach out to me to discuss the position ([catherineljalbert@gmail.com](mailto:catherineljalbert@gmail.com)). There are plenty of opportunities to do great work with the CTA website and to expand our social media presence!

As always, if you have any suggestions for items you would like to see incorporated into the website, or have any questions about the items discussed above, please feel free to email me!

Take care,  
Catherine Jalbert

(Workshop information on next page)

**Workshop: Power, Responsibility, & Accountability****Date:** April 12**Time:** 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. (EST)**Instructors:** Laura Heath-Stout, Meagan Thies-Sauder, and Gabriela Oré**Sponsor:** Meeting Safety Committee

This workshop was created by the SAA Meeting Safety Committee in collaboration with Futures Without Violence (<https://futureswithoutviolence.org/>) to identify, address, and prevent sexual misconduct and bullying in archaeological practice. The group facilitators will use the first part of the workshop to inform on the role power dynamics plays in sexual misconduct and bullying and ways to address and prevent it in the workplace. In the second part, the group facilitators will lead the group through a series of prompted questions to explore power dynamics, responsibility, and accountability in their respective work environments, where the skills acquired in the first section can be implemented.

## Curation Committee Report

### Report of the CTA Curation Committee and Ad Hoc Curation Ethics Statement Committee March 23, 2021

Marybeth Tomka, Chair, TARL, UT-Austin  
Aina Dodge, TPWD  
Tina Nielsen, SWCA  
Amy Reid, CAS, TxState  
Erin Phillips, Coastal Environmental

Brad Jones and Max Hall, THC, ex-officio members  
Annie Riegert-Cummings, TARL, UT-Austin, Ad hoc member  
Katie Canavan, ACI Consulting, Ad Hoc member

Last fall, in preparation for the CTA meeting in October, the Curation Committee put together an ethics statement for the membership to consider and to get a head start on the ad hoc committee. President Todd Ahlman was going to form. We were informed that we were both jumping the gun and that our statement did not adhere to the guidelines of the other statements. The issue however, prompted some heated debate. One of the pressing issues mentioned by the memberships was the consequences for not following the ethic.

The Ad Hoc committee has met alongside the regular committee since only two additional CTA members were added to the regular curation committee. Meetings were held by Zoom on November 11th and again on March 15th. The committee members decided in November that

we would put together a presentation on the importance to both our professional standing as well as clarifying some misconceptions that the membership had about curation practices in general. We met on the 15th of March to bless the final presentation spearheaded by regular curation committee member Amy Reid. This presentation includes a few PowerPoint slides and a recommendation from both the ad hoc and regular curation committee for a curation ethics statement. We also are recommending a preamble to the curation standards and guidelines to introduce the concept of curation for CTA members. Both recommendations appear on the following page.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marybeth S.F. Tomka

## Proposed Curation Ethics Statement Addition

### **Addition to the CTA ethics:**

8. Members shall promote and follow best practices in the curation of archeological collections in accordance with all State and Federal regulations and professional guidelines.

## Proposed Standards and Guidelines for Curation Preamble

### **As a preamble to the Curation Standards and Guidelines we would like to add the following:**

On [insert date], the CTA added an eighth guideline to the Ethics Statement to address promoting the proper curation of archaeological materials. The following expanded statement was developed to be included in the present Curation Guidelines and Standards document (updated [insert date]):

The members of the CTA recognize that ethical management of cultural resources necessarily includes the proper curation of archeological collections. Therefore, members of the CTA strive to preserve and provide long-term access to archeological collections, records, raw data, and reports by submitting them to repositories that meet State and/or Federal curation standards. The CTA encourages all others performing archeological or other cultural resource investigations to ensure proper curation and use of all data sources (objects, records, raw data, or reports) in a manner that sustains their preservation and facilitates the best care practical for those parts of the archeological record that are now or will only be preserved in these objects, records, or reports.

## Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation Partnership Update

By: Eric Schroeder

Since March of last year, with the onset of the pandemic, the Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation Partnership (Texas Private Lands Partnership for brevity's sake) had been virtually put on hold due to the fact that all the meetings/conferences we planned to attend were either postponed or cancelled. In October, we learned that the THC would not be awarding Texas Preservation Trust Fund grants for the 2021 calendar year. Despite all these hits to the program, we still have some unspent funds in our 2020 grant, and I received approval from the THC to spend these for events in 2021. So, we have until July 2021 to attend events until either our budget is exhausted or when the grant closes and our request for reimbursement is due.

Currently, I am scheduled to attend the Texas Land Conservation Conference, a virtual event organized by the Texas Land Trust Council. We had an exhibit booth at this event last year before the virus struck and shut gatherings like this down, and we were amazed with the turnout of private landowners and land trust entities in attendance. So far, I think this event has the high-

est potential to pay dividends, as the landowners that attend are already conservation minded. The issue I found in talking to the attendees is that it is mostly biased on the development of conservation easements for wildlife management purposes, and although federal and state tax laws also include tax breaks for conservation easements for historical resources, this aspect of the tax code is not emphasized. I think one reason for this bias is that the land trust organizations that attended last year's event all seem to be run by wildlife biologists with almost no representation from the historic preservation community. My hope is that our presence at this and other private landowner gatherings will go a long way toward chipping away at this bias. So, I recommend that we continue to exhibit at this event and consider also being a sponsor in the future.



## Update - Texas Beyond History 2021?

By: Steve Black and Emily McCuiston

Now in its 20th year of existence, Texas Beyond History (TBH, [www.texasbeyondhistory.net](http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net)), a public education service of the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at the University of Texas at Austin, is alive and kicking. Steve has returned to the helm as (unpaid) TBH Director and Co-Editor after retiring from teaching at Texas State University at the end of 2019. Emily was hired as TBH Assistant Editor beginning in January 2021. She earned her M.A. in 2019 at Texas State and began contributing to TBH in 2020 as an editorial assistant. Emily is the lead editor for several new exhibits that will appear later this year, including a CRM-sponsored exhibit on several 19th century plantations that Cox McLain (and Prewitt and Associates) investigated in Rusk County.

Several additional sponsored exhibits are planned for 2021-2022 and we are soliciting proposals for other Site Exhibits ([texasbeyondhistory.net/explorer.html](http://texasbeyondhistory.net/explorer.html)) based on CRM projects. We will also consider proposals for smaller sponsored content contributions such as Ancient Places and Historic Encounters featured on the four completed regions of Prehistoric Texas ([texasbeyondhistory.net/prehistoric/](http://texasbeyondhistory.net/prehistoric/)). Yes, by “sponsored” we mean that the content and direct web development costs are covered by CRM firms and their clients. What does it take? Well, that all depends on the scope and the content we have to work with. The starting point is a compelling interpretive story based on archaeological and/or historical investigation that speaks to the cultural heritage of Texas. Contact Steve to explore possibilities: [sblack@utexas.edu](mailto:sblack@utexas.edu).

Last fall we debuted the TBH Gallery: Icons’ of Texas Cultural Heritage ([texasbeyondhistory.net/gallery/](http://texasbeyondhistory.net/gallery/)) which currently includes 10 entries and is growing! The TBH Gallery features object-based stories of modest scope (single web pages with 8-12 paragraphs and 4-6 images). Gallery entries focus on iconic individual artifacts (e.g., turquoise mosaic armband from Ceremonial Cave), materials (e.g., Alibates flint tools), and types (e.g., Spiro Engraved pottery). Most highlight iconic objects also presented elsewhere on TBH, but that isn’t a requirement. We might also consider Gallery entries based on iconic cultural features (such as the exalted burned rock midden). Pitch us an idea? Sponsor a TBH Gallery entry? Contact Steve or Emily to learn more: [emccuiston@utexas.edu](mailto:emccuiston@utexas.edu).

TBH now has an Instagram account ([instagram.com/texasbeyondhistory/](https://www.instagram.com/texasbeyondhistory/)) that Emily created to announce new content and highlight relevant stories from existing TBH exhibits. Please consider following us and helping us spread the TBH word.

(In case you are wondering about the grandiose TBH 2021 vision that Steve’s 2018 manifesto and 2018 TAS presentation laid out, so are we. Laudable perhaps, but not rooted in pragmatic reality. Nonetheless, we are working hard to create new content and gain new support and traction.)

We hope to see you at the Fall 2021 CTA Meeting, whether in person or online. Emily and Steve will expand on this TBH 2021 progress report and highlight new and forthcoming exhibits. Yours in the TBH 2021 cause!

## Fall 2020 CTA Meeting Minutes

### October 23, 2020

Conducted via Zoom.

Total number of participants: 83

Call to Order - 9:03 am

**Meeting Moderator (Todd Ahlman):** Instructions/Guidelines for meeting participation: I know that we are all experts, but just a quick rundown on using Zoom. You can use chat function. You can unmute yourself when you have a report. You can use the hand-raise function if you want to say something. Any questions before we begin? No questions.

#### Approval of Minutes, Spring 2020 Meeting

Comments or corrections? None.

Motion to approve: Eric Schroeder.

Second: Jon Lohse.

Approved unanimously.

## Officers' Reports

### President (Todd Ahlman)

I want to thank everyone for their flexibility. We are in unprecedented times. In the spring, Jon had called for companies' COVID guidelines. If you have new versions, please send them to me, Catherine, or Tina so that we are all staying safe. Don't get COVID, it sucks.

In other news, Eric has taken a new job, so later this morning we will vote for a new person in that role. Eric and Maggie will help that person transition. Eric will stay on as the Ad Hoc Investment Committee lead.

All of our committees have been working hard. Some updates from Jodi later this morning. We'll talk about Spring meeting in New Business.

### Vice President (Erin Phillips)

I'm looking forward to having social events in the future, in the meantime we will do the best we can. Probably no in-person meeting in the Spring

### Past President (Jon Lohse)

I don't have a lot to say. I hope everyone had a chance to see my report in the newsletter. I have represented CTA on the Antiquities Advisory Board. Todd will replace me in that role, assuming CTA approves. I've represented CTA in that role in the last few years. It's been a privilege.

I also have continued to support Dr. Andrea Roberts with the Texas Freedom Colonies Project. She has a steering committee that we help with. I'll be sharing info about her town hall events. You may remember she gave a talk at Camp Mabry a year ago. They are making a significant contribution. Super busy at work like most everyone.

### Secretary (Scotty Moore)

I apologize for coming to you as a disembodied voice, but my camera isn't currently working. It's nice to see all of you though! As of this morning, CTA has 213 current members (with 4 people who registered in the last 4 days). This total includes: 50 contractor listings, 88 professional archeologists, 14 students, 8 retiree, 10 institutional. This total is down from 227 last Fall, but the disparity is mostly students, which is understandable given the variety of different strategies that institutions of higher learning have adopted to deal with COVID-19 and our temporary inability to host in-person networking events that they could benefit from.

This membership decline has some budgetary consequences, which Eric will address. Given how wild this year is, I think it's a testimony to how seriously this community takes its responsibility to be stewards for archeological resources that our membership hasn't dipped lower.

### Treasurer (Eric Schroeder)

At this moment, \$53,000 (\$12,000 in business account). Investment account of \$30,000. Scholarship fund is \$9,000. We do have an income shortage, but I fully anticipate a surplus due to low spending. The major expenditures, including social events and the TAM grants, were non-



existent.

Any questions? None.

**Newsletter Editor (Tina Nielsen)**

No report.

## Agency Reports

**Texas Historical Commission (Brad Jones)**

Staffing updates: last time we had a lot of open positions. Now we are fully staffed. Marie Archambeault Troell is a tribal liaison/reviewer. Most of you know her. Taylor Bowden came on as a part-time reviewer for Harvey-related projects. Max Hall has come to serve as State Antiquities person. Helping with a slew of things. Full staff makes my job easier.

Doing a little internal reorganization. We had originally had two people handling permitting materials. We have combined roles into Laney Fisher's position - all regulatory considerations go through her.

Curatorial materials - reach out to Max Hall

Update on online permit application system. We've been beta testing it in every reviewer's district. Electronically issued permits will be numbered in the 30,000s to leave room between hard-copy applications and electronic applications. This will be rolled out fully in January. You will need to create a PI login.

Still in pandemic mode; most staff are working from home. As time has worn on, people have forgotten the temporary policies, like taking electronic copies only. We may want to change/modernize rules going forward. We will try to get some of this into January Antiquities Advisory Board meeting

Our recommendations for FCC projects are in the newsletter. We are seeing a lot of projects on state lands without permits. If you are working on state lands without a CE, you must pull permits.

Survey without permitting is one of the few things you can do that will get you and your company censured. There will be online training for FCC projects early next year.

Continuing to do Atlas and eTRAC upgrades. I apologize for service issues. During the week of Thanksgiving, there will be no Atlas. Plan ahead for that.

If you are a new PI applying for your permit, please send in a full CV so that we can accurately assess qualifications. Don't provide short resumes.

**Texas Archeology Month:** I appreciate all of the hard work that Maggie, Drew, and Max have been doing. We've been focusing on virtual presentations. We have developed a YouTube archeology channel. We hope that they will be up by the end of the month.

Next month a new series of Untold Archeology stories will kick off. First up- Bryan Celestine on tribal history of Alabama-Coushatta and Mescalero - Apache.

Todd (Ahlman) is set to take over Jon's position on Antiquities Advisory Council.

We have kicked off Lost Cemeteries Internship with Emily Dylla and Jenny McWilliams. They will pick up a project scanning old documents to identify cemeteries that have disappeared off of maps over time. Encourage any students to reach out to us.

**Historic Sites (Sarah Chesney):** Not much going on due to COVID. For San Felipe, what we have primarily been doing is monitoring construction of new interpretive site. That should open in the spring. We hope to get back to a regular volunteer effort in the Spring. We will have the 101 program led by Jon Lohse in the Spring.

**Levi Jordan Site (Catherine Jalbert):** no report.

**Texas Parks and Wildlife (Robin Barnes)**

The majority of our staff is working from home, but we are doing fieldwork. If you need to visit the archeology lab, contact Aina Dodge to set up a time to come in to look at collections/library.

Our capital projects are moving forward. We have hired a licensed architect as lead of preservation services and historic structure reviews. Stay tuned over the next year for additional preservation services job postings

Eric Schroeder is our new wildlife archeologist.

Eric: I enjoyed work in consulting, now looking forward to working on the other side of the fence. There are a lot of 3rd party projects that cross wildlife areas, and that requires you send me your permit application. For context: there are 800,000 acres of wildlife management areas that we are responsible for. If anyone wants to come do some surveys, I can put you to work (for free of course!)

**Texas Department of Transportation (Scott Pletka)**

Many of you are aware, we have posted RFP for general archeological services. The deadline for receipt is Nov. 18 at noon. This is an electronic submission. The deadline has passed for questions/clarifications. We will have other opportunities to work with us in the spring. Expect 2 project-specific RFPs next year. You may know about the work in Mason and Anderson counties. We have been happy with the project-specific RFPs and their results so far.

**Staffing:** John Bud retired mid-August. We will be posting that position in the near future. There have been some hiccups in getting that position listed. It will be listed under Environmental Specialist IV. When that posting goes out, I'll send out an announcement.

We are in the process of working on a revision to our Section 106 programmatic agreement

with THC and FHWA that allows TxDOT to do work on behalf of FHWA. We have been working closely with tribal parties and are now starting to engage our other partners. You will have more opportunities to learn what we are working on in the future. The current agreement will extend for another 5 year period if nothing is completed before then. Our plan is to have a new agreement midway through 2021.

We have committed to making data from our projects available through tDAR. We have two projects curated through them now. We will be curating more specific projects. Just search for us on that site.

We have been doing a series of speaking opportunities. The latest one is on Monday at 10:00 am where we will be talking about our work with cadaver dogs to identify burials. There will be 3-4 speaking events over the course of the year.

**Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (Jonathan Jarvis)**

Not much to report. We have revised our fee schedule a bit. That is available on the website. For regulators: I would like to request that if you want to use our records or data, please let us know first. If you have special requirements for your consultants, let us know so that they don't pay the price. For example, if you want to record an Isolated Find as a site, let us know first

I will need volunteers to help with my CRM course in the Spring.

**Center for Archaeological Studies (Jodi Jacobson)**

Still taking in collections. Please make an appointment with Amy for dropping off materials. Records can just be mailed. Make sure that mailed artifacts are in a box.

Working to boost our TxPAN initiative. May reach out to people who initially were interested in

helping. Like THC and TARL, we have put together a photography exhibit for Texas Archeology Month.

Most of our staff is working remotely, but there are people who can meet you.

One new hire: Kelsey Hart is the replacement for Max. She just started this week.

**Center for Archaeological Research:**  
No report.

## Standing Committee Reports

**Auditing (Mark Denton)**

Nothing to report because the audit takes place before the Spring committee. We'll have to figure out how we will get access to the documents (maybe scan them?)

**Budget Committee (Eric Schroeder)**

Nothing to report. All info is in the newsletter.

I did notice that we had a dropdown in PI membership. If you are pulling memberships, please register as a PI.

**CTA Communications (Catherine Jalbert)**

No report.

**Contractors (Catherine Jalbert)**

No report.

**Curation (Marybeth Tomka)**

Jonathan and Jodi both mentioned that repositories have COVID precautions. Later in this meeting we will talk about curation statement in the CTA code of ethics. SAA and SHA have curation statements, therefore we need to have it in our code.

**Governmental Affairs**

**Duane Peter:** Obviously the pandemic has affected our work process in the past several months. From an ACRA perspective, there is concern about how

COVID is affecting SHPO staffing and funding. ACRA is in the process of reaching out to all SHPO staff.

**Nesta Anderson:** The first date for submitting bills to the Texas Legislature is Nov. 9. Funding is the most concerning thing that we need to be watching now. Everyone who gets state funding has to watch closely.

**Todd Ahlman:** I assume that the legislature will be in a slash/burn mode next year.

**Membership (Katie Canavan)**

The only update I have is that earlier this year, the membership committee voted and chose our 2 CTA Student Research Grant winners for 2020

One winner was Cambria Haley from Wichita State University. For her master's she's focusing on early Caddo in Texas, specifically the Boxed Springs site. With the grant, she was going to travel to TARL to review the Caddo comparative collection for accurate identification. I haven't heard back whether she's had to put her research on hold due to Covid though. Interestingly, Ms. Haley's master's Advisor is actually Dr. Crystal Dozier, who was recently published using research which was funded by the CTA back in 2017. You can read about Dr. Dozier's research on the CTA website.

Ashley Eyeington was a recipient of our 2nd student research grant. She is a master's candidate with Texas State University and is conducting her thesis research at Bonfire Shelter, a controversial bison drive site. There are disagreements as to whether a 12,000 year old Paleoindian Bone Bed 2, was created as a result of a bison drive over the canyon rim and how many cultural events are represented. Her research is focused on using geoarchaeological techniques to create a chronostratigraphic model of the site. IF she is able to determine if the bone bed was accumulated through a bison drive event, it would represent the southernmost and oldest bison

jump site. The grant was to help with travel and laboratory expenses. I have heard back from Ms. Eyeington this week and she has been fortunate in that most of her lab work has been able to be completed and has not had to put her research on hold. So now she's just wading through data!

#### **Multicultural Relations (Mary Jo Galindo)**

We did issue an anti-racism statement, but we might consider putting money into scholarships for people of color. I would appreciate any help.

Todd: if you are interested in joining this committee, please shoot me an email. I do think that we need to establish a scholarship fund for field schools. It would be important for our group to contribute to that to increase diversity. There are many hurdles that students of color face; we should try to reduce that.

MaryBeth: Annie Riegert Cummings would be a good person to be on that committee.

#### **Nominating (Bill Martin)**

The only thing to report is that Eric Schroeder is stepping down and we need a new treasurer. Tom Barrett has agreed to serve in that role. We can also take nominations from the floor.

The president is supposed to reappoint the nominating committee; in fact he needs to reappoint all committee chairs (or appoint new ones).

If any officers do not want to serve, several positions would come open in the spring. So please let me know.

#### **Public Education (Todd Ahlman)**

I need a volunteer to step into the chairperson's role. The main function is the E. Mott Davis Award. There are great public outreach projects that need to be recognized.

#### **Standards and Guidelines Committee (Jodi Jacobson)**

Most of what I have to say is in the newsletter. We have continued to meet over the summer virtually. We have addressed the minor changes to incorporate everyone's comments on the cemetery guidelines. Those should be going to THC today for them to start their review process.

Reporting guidelines had another deep dive after feedback from the Spring meeting. Amy Borgens will meet with the committee to develop a draft for the Spring meeting in 2021.

We started thinking about a cemetery sub-committee. Sub-committee will begin meeting within the next month.

In New Business, we should talk about the questions on the mechanical prospection guidelines. We'd like some feedback on how they are working. We may be able to make some tweaks. We want CTA feedback on this.

Todd: All committees are reappointed. Are all current chairs ok with serving? Unanimous verbal yes. Todd: I hereby reappoint you and your committees.

#### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

##### **Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation Partnership (Eric Schroeder)**

Most in-person events have been cancelled. The various meetings that we were going to have been cancelled. We did make trips to meetings in January and February but not since.

We got a prehistoric site easement placed on a ranch in south Texas to preserve archeological sites.

Grant application for the next iteration in the works, but no insight on the current process.

Brad Jones: announcements will be forthcoming in November.

**Lost Cemeteries Task Force (Andi Burden)**

The Task Force (TF) has met once since the Spring CTA Meeting.

In June, we had a hastily organized Juneteenth Service Project, which, despite the COVID difficulties, resulted in recording one historic African American cemetery along US 290 in Harris County (one of our target counties due to growth). This cemetery does not currently appear on the Atlas but is pending upload to the Atlas shortly. Such an initiative may become an annual volunteer public service among CTA membership for future Juneteenth holidays, and the TF will keep the membership apprised of these details as they are firmed up.

We finalized our list of priority (i.e., fastest-growing) counties on which to focus TF activities.

We have been coordinating with the THC, specifically TF Members Jenny McWilliams and Michelle Valek, on how to assist the THC in their efforts to add more lost cemetery locations to/increase the locational accuracy of current “vicinity layer” cemeteries displayed via the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas. Jenny has devised a 4-phase approach for accomplishing this task and identified the greatest need for our assistance in Phase 1- reconciliation of the THC’s backlog of cemetery GIS data and associated attribute data. The THC hosted our first training on this October 20, 2020 and we have received our first dataset, Waller County, to reconcile in the coming months.

**CTA Financial Investment Search Committee (Eric Schroeder)**

CTA Investments committee met twice in the fall. Our short term goals are to keep up with inflation, use dividends to increase amount of student research grant (Investment of \$10K at 3% would add current grant amount of \$1200 to \$1500). In the longer term, we want to make the student research grant pay for itself. Investment of \$40K at 3% return will earn enough to cover one of the \$1,200 grants.

We spoke with people at Texas Archeological Society; they have had good success with a local company (Clear Rock Advisors). We met with them and they indicated at the low-to-modest risk investment with a return rate between 4-6%. There are 0.5% investment fees, no penalties for withdrawal of funds.

We would like to take our scholarship fund and \$20K in money market account and roll it into Clear Rock Advisors.

**Discussion**

Bill Martin: are there any hidden fees? Eric: we brought it up and were told no.

Mary Beth: TAS president who set them up with Clear Rock Advisors has been really happy.

Todd: most of their clients are much larger. They said that we could be more aggressive, but I don’t want to go that way right now.

Erin: do we need a motion to proceed in this direction.

Motion: Mark Denton - let’s put \$30,000 in Clear Rock

Second: Erin Phillips and multiple other people

Vote: unanimous yes

**Old Business**

**Update on cemetery standards, curation standards, reporting standards, and remote sensing standards (non-voting item)**

Jodi Jacobson: I’ve pretty much covered them all. With respect to remote sensing: we will have another person joining the committee and revitalize it.

Jodi: Now that we have approved standards, let’s see if people have concerns or issues.

Andi Burden: It’s been a few months that we have been following the new rules. We have sought clarification from THC, we have in general had some concerns from clients as to the number of shovel tests put in disturbed contexts.

Jodi: in practice shovel tests in disturbed areas and shovel test vs trenches have been issues that people have brought up. Do we need to make adjustments (rhetorical question)?

James Hughey: clarification regarding when and how we are using shovel test and trenching. If you approach this blindly, you are doing a lot of work that THC argues is beyond what is needed. We could use some guidance about how these two methods of prospection work together.

Jodi: we were leaning one way in our committee meetings, but sounds like we need to make some tweaks.

Katherine Turner-Pearson: even among our staff there is disagreement over how to interpret standards. We need it spelled out to show to clients and project managers. Some of the standards seem like overkill.

John Harris: from an agency point of view, the standards on who chooses how deeply we go are focused specifically on geoarcheologists, but SOI standards don't require geoarcheological knowledge, so there is a gap. Can we suggest adding a soil scientist to the list of qualified people?

Jodi: we can't make changes like that without THC approval.

Arlo McKee: Professional standards for geoarcheologists or regional expertise match up with Antiquities Code guidance. So there are specific requirements in Chapter 26 for those categories.

Katie Canavan: we had issue with the 1:2 ratio (STP to trenching). We need clarification on the ratio and whether trenches can substitute for STPs.

Jodi: yes we need to work on this.

Todd: might be best if we take a step back and see whether we need to make minor tweaks or rewriting.

Jodi: we've looked at what has been done in the past, so we can blast out changes in a newsletter.

Tina Nielsen: I recommend making a redline version.

Jodi: I agree

## New Business

### Officer Elections (Bill Martin)

Tom Barrett has expressed willingness to serve. Are there any nominations from the floor for Treasurer? No.

Appoint Thomas Barrett to Treasurer by acclamation

Erin Phillips: Motion to appoint by acclamation

Second: Jon Lohse and multiple people

Voted in by acclamation

Todd: Congratulations Tom. I recommend working with Eric and Maggie to pick their brains.

### CTA's investment in diversity and inclusion

Todd Ahlman: I'd like to invest in people of color. I'd like the Multi-cultural committee to take the lead on this. I'd like to raise funds to pay for this. Maybe the committee could come up with some guidelines.

Tina Nielsen: Since we didn't have a fall social, we could reach out to those firms that usually sponsor it to donate instead to this fund.

Todd Ahlman: we need to nail down how much we want to give

Jodi Jacobson: Anyone who is thinking of giving money to funds, sometimes big companies make matching donations.

Duane Peter: do we want to establish a relationship with one or more universities?

John Lowe: so much CRM is focused in the major cities, but we should consider giving money to underserved communities where funding is more difficult to come by.

Todd Ahlman: Let's come up with some ideas before the Spring meeting.

### Spring 2021 meeting

Todd Ahlman: April 8-9 would be the normal date and usually we have some professional development on both days. I think that we'd all like to have an in-person meeting, but I'd like to come up with some professional development that is planned to be in person but still good if moved to virtual. Make February the cut-off date for making that decision. What do others think?

Erin Phillips: we should try to be as flexible as possible.

Todd: It would be prudent to be flexible.

Tina Nielsen: we usually use the Rosebud Center or Camp Mabry. Maybe we should reserve something but cancel it later. We could have presentations that don't require physical presence.

Marybeth Tomka: TAS academies are all virtual. That's our best bet. (Multiple people agree with this).

Todd Ahlman: sounds like we should plan for professional development to be all virtual.

Catherine Jalbert: If we have in-person meetings, we should have a plan to record it. We might make the decision now to do that.

Bill Martin: Until we have a vaccine, I don't think we should plan for anything in person.

Erin Phillips: even if they come out with a vaccine, it may take until next fall before people can gather in large groups.

Todd Ahlman: I will work with the EC to come up with a plan for professional development.

### **Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey (Tina Nielsen on behalf of Alan Slade)**

New institutional member, Alan Slade (TARL), has put out a call for data on fluted points found in Texas. I'm not involved in this project, so please direct questions to Alan or Marybeth. The call for data will be posted on the CTA website. The call for data includes instructions for recording and submitted information on fluted points to TARL. The site includes survey form and instructions.

Marybeth Tomka: this was Alan's decision to take on this project due to COVID.

Richard Weinstein: Alan should coordinate with David Anderson, who is running a nationwide paleo-database.

### **Texas Beyond History (Steve Black)**

Texas Beyond History is growing again. We have added the Texas Beyond History Gallery this fall. Two people I want to acknowledge: Heather Smith at Texas State University and Emily McCuistion, who is an assistant editor on Texas Beyond History,

who has done the lion's share on developing the gallery.

We will take proposals for new Texas Beyond History gallery entries; please let me know if you have ideas.

Heather Smith: please also send any potential grad students our way.

### **Ethics Statement Update-Statement on Curation**

Todd Ahlman: volunteers to be on the ad hoc committee - let me know

Marybeth Tomka: I mentioned earlier that SHA and SAA have statements regarding curation (excerpts of the statements are shown in Powerpoint for membership to see). I want to thank Amy Reid for sending me data. Now is our chance to update this. It is vital that CTA adopt an ethics statement for curation.

Todd Ahlman: lets open it up for discussion.

Amy Reid: any good reasons not to include curation in our ethics statement?

Andi Burden: one of the examples that Marybeth brought up shows that non-legally mandated curation must take place, which would add some financial difficulties. Most private clients aren't used to paying for curation if it's not legally required.

Amy Reid: we understand the financial aspect, this is more about encouraging people to curate rather than legally require them to do so.

Jon Lohse: When you register for CTA, you agree to abide by the ethics. It would become an aspect of the membership to follow all of the code. Bullet points in the ethics statement were not duplicated elsewhere. I don't have a position on whether it should be included or not, but the wording has to be careful.

Amy Reid: by not having it in, we send the message that curation is not important.

Jodi Jacobson: If curation is in the ethics

statement, then it conveys some weight as to why we have to do it; we could point to that ethics statement in discussions with clients

Chris Dayton (in chat): we all agree that data recovery and testing need to be curated. Do all no-findings surveys need to be curated as well?

Arlo McKee: We can come to a consensus that we agree that artifacts should be curated, but it is a slippery slope to have situational ethics. In the last meeting, Bill (Martin) brought up: what do we do if someone violates the ethics?

Marybeth Tomka: if you dig it, you must curate it.

Jodi Jacobson: do we need to keep everything? We can request discard for redundant artifacts. There may be some way to take this into consideration curation. Of course, for held-in-trust collections, you must curate.

Amy Reid: well how often are we getting collections that aren't curated?

Todd: we can write a 50-page ethics statement of curation, but we need consistency with our other statements.

Marybeth: some of the discrepancy is that people aren't talking to curators. We aren't trying to curate everything. We just want to document what is happening. Discard is fine as long as there is a record of what was discarded.

Andi Burden: For Marybeth and her committee, I would encourage consideration of collection vs non-collection surveys.

Katherine Turner-Pearson: I can see that I have more control with what I do with my own company. If we have to curate records on no-findings projects that are on private property, then we will lose money. If we had funds to help people do curation, but the curation even for small reports are substantial.

Marybeth Tomka: you do not know what the cost of long-term curation. We have taken that on in our agencies.

Todd Ahlman: we are getting away from the point of this new business. This should be brought up in

the committee discussions. Committee will work up a statement and then we can decide whether we want to use it. I've got members who are interested in being part of the committee. We'll have more discussion in the Spring.

**New business from the floor**  
None

**Call to Adjourn**  
Motion: Erin Phillips  
Second: Missi Green

**Meeting adjourned 11:26 am.**



## Officers (Executive Committee)

President

Todd Ahlman

[toddahlman@txstate.edu](mailto:toddahlman@txstate.edu)

Past President

Jon Lohse

[jonclohse@gmail.com](mailto:jonclohse@gmail.com)

Vice President

Erin Phillips

[ephillips@coastalenv.com](mailto:ephillips@coastalenv.com)

Secretary

Scotty Moore

[scottym@coxmcclain.com](mailto:scottym@coxmcclain.com)

Treasurer

Thomas Barrett

[drtpbarrett@gmail.com](mailto:drtpbarrett@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor

Tina Nielsen

[cnielsen@swca.com](mailto:cnielsen@swca.com)

## Committees

Auditing \*

Mark Denton

[mdenton13@austin.rr.com](mailto:mdenton13@austin.rr.com)

Communications and Contractor's Listing  
(Interim)\*

Catherine Jalbert

[catherineljalbert@gmail.com](mailto:catherineljalbert@gmail.com)

Curation \*

Marybeth Tomka

[marybeth.tomka@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:marybeth.tomka@austin.utexas.edu)

Governmental Affairs \*

Nesta Anderson

[nanderson@paleowest.com](mailto:nanderson@paleowest.com)

Membership\*

Katie Canavan

[kcanavan@aci-group.net](mailto:kcanavan@aci-group.net)

Multicultural Relations \*

Mary Jo Galindo

[mary.jo@galindoenv.com](mailto:mary.jo@galindoenv.com)

Nominating \*

Bill Martin

[Bill.Martin@thc.texas.gov](mailto:Bill.Martin@thc.texas.gov)

Public Education \*

Todd Ahlman

[toddahlman@txstate.edu](mailto:toddahlman@txstate.edu)

Standards and Guidelines\*

Jodi Jacobson

[jodijacobson@txstate.edu](mailto:jodijacobson@txstate.edu)

Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation  
Partnership

Eric Schroeder

[ESchroeder@baereng.com](mailto:ESchroeder@baereng.com)

\*Indicates a Standing Committee